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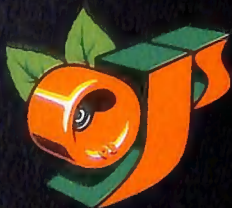
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SkateBoarder

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COVER: Brad Bowman takes his interpretation of the no-hands aerial to Hollywood, Florida, where Alan Gelfand had first innovated it a year or so ago. Brad was in town for an interesting "Product-Awareness Tournament" which is currently touring the local parks. Photo: Fineman



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SKATEBOARDER COVERAGE AND DISTRIBUTION is worldwide. The magazine is published every month. Subscriptions may be obtained by sending \$12.00 to Box 1028, Dana Point, California, 92629. Subscription includes 12 editions. Please include your zip code. Foreign rate: \$15.00 International Postal Money Orders, please! In West Germany for shop and dealer information contact: ASF Peter Eicker KG, Auf der Hoehe 47, 4100 Duisburg 1, Telefon 0203/27071.

CONTRIBUTIONS—SKATEBOARDER welcomes story, art and photo contributions. Photo-story articles and fiction should be directed to EDITOR—SKATEBOARDER MAGAZINE. Miscellaneous photos should be addressed to PHOTO EDITOR. Mark envelopes PRESS PHOTO—DO NOT BEND, and carefully pack negatives and transparencies. All contributions must be accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. SKATEBOARDER IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR UNSOLICITED CONTRIBUTIONS. Surfer Publications retain reprint rights. Contributor retains all other rights for resale, republication, etc. Send all contributions to SKATEBOARDER, Box 1028, Dana Point, California 92629.

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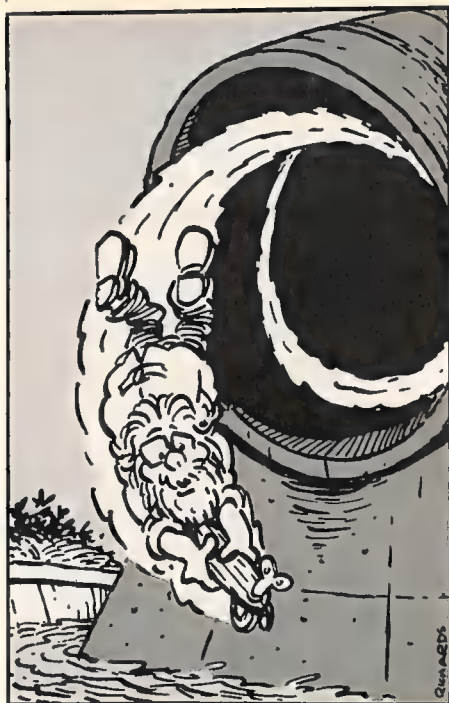


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Skate Safe

KEEPING YOUR WHEELS TUNED

by C. Hesselgrave

Your skateboard rides on its wheels. They are the only contact that you have with the ground. If your wheels aren't in top shape then your contact and thus control on the riding surface will suffer.

Skateboard wheels are designed to work with the full width of the tread surface touching the ground. As a wheel is ridden, normal wear and tear decreases the amount of tread width touching the ground. Slides in particular wear the wheels rapidly. The most common form of wear is "coning out" in which the inside part of the wheel gets to be smaller in diameter than the outside. Coning out is the result of sliding. Another common form of wear comes from kickturning on flat ground or tick tacks. Tick tacks wear the outside edges of the front wheels, rounding them off and again decreasing effective tread width. When the tread width is decreased past a certain point (more than $\frac{1}{4}$ of the full width) the wheel becomes unsafe and should be replaced. Seriously decreased tread width (more than $\frac{1}{3}$ of width) lessens the stability of the wheel.

Another common wear characteristic is flat spots, also caused by sliding. Flat spots can be heard and felt. The wheel will make a clicking noise as it rolls and it also feels bumpy. The

bumpy feeling can be dangerous in critical situations.

Wheels that have developed these wear characteristics should be replaced, principally for safety but also to bring the performance of your equipment back up to its design standards.

There are a few things that happen to wheels and bearings during normal use that don't affect the safety of your board but do decrease its performance, thereby lessening the enjoyment of your equipment. To give you a fuller understanding of your wheels and what can happen, here is a brief description of the factors that influence wheel performance:

1. Wheel diameter — the larger the wheel diameter, the faster it can roll, though it will be harder to turn.
2. Hardness — the harder a wheel is, the faster it will roll (because it keeps its roundness better).
3. Resilience — this is the ability of the urethane compound to absorb minor irregularities in the pavement without losing speed.
4. Bearings — the faster the bearings, the faster you'll go (but more on this later).

The diameter of the wheels you choose is mostly a matter of personal taste. Most high-performance wheels are in the 63mm to 67mm size range. Smaller (60mm) wheels are good for beginners because they turn easily and don't roll as fast. Large wheels (70mm) are fast but don't turn easily.

Wheel hardness should be selected according to the terrain you are going to ride: hard for skateparks and softer for street use. Since hard wheels go faster, it is not recommended that beginners use hard wheels.

In the last year the trend in wheel technology has been toward developing more resilient urethane compounds. They have found that a hard, resilient wheel goes faster than a hard non-resilient one. The drawback to this is that some resilient compounds go dead after awhile and the wheel gets slower. If you find that your wheels don't seem to go as fast as they used to, and the bearings are still good, they have probably lost that resiliency and you'll need new ones to get the speed back again.

Bearings are a subject all to themselves. Your board will only go as fast as the bearings permit the wheels to roll. All skateboard bearings today are the sealed type. They can and do get dirty and worn. If you are enterprising and energetic, you can refurbish dirty bearings. First, carefully remove the seals using a thin knife point (be sure not to damage the seals) and clean the bearings in kerosene



Optimal skating requires proper equipment maintenance. Steve Alba, Upland.

or cleaning solvent. Repacking should be done with a five-grade, heat-resistant grease and the seals should be carefully replaced. There are spray lubricants on the market especially made for skateboard bearings that will lengthen your bearings' life. Once a bearing begins to get noisy (usually a gritty sounding noise), or catches as it rolls, you can be pretty sure that it is worn internally and should be replaced. When taking the bearings out of the wheels or replacing them, be sure not to damage the seals. If the seals are dented they rub on the bearings' insides. Dented seals also don't seal anymore. Dirt and moisture can get into bearings and ruin them.

If you lose your board in a puddle of water write your bearings off. No matter how good the seals are, the bearings will rust and give poor performance.

Good maintenance habits will increase the life of your equipment and good equipment is the key to good skateboarding. ☺



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Skate Post

KIMBEL/BANQUET FEEDBACK

I read that Tony Alva acted like a real dip at the SkateBoarder Poll Banquet. He's really lucky to get 2nd place! I also think Steve Olson should get his finger out of his nose so his brain can get some air!

I'd also like to say I was glad to see that Steve Alba was very courteous when he got 3rd. (He should have gotten 1st!) I also liked it when I heard Blackhart was "on good behavior" for the first time.
S.F.

I was a serious collector of your back issues and used to order a lot of stuff through your mag. But after you gave that dude who wrote in about the SkateBoarder Poll Banquet (Vol. 5 No. 11) all that bunk about how it was the readers who should exert the proper influence, all my back issues went into the can. That's a bunch of crud!

Zack

Abilene, Texas

I am an owner of a small skateboard shop. I try to promote this sport as much as possible. However, I find it difficult to achieve respect for the sport with certain unsavory characters behaving like children. I am in agreement with Curt Kimbel. If people like Tony Alva would behave like humans, everyone would benefit. It takes a long time to make a reputation but only a minute to break one. Alva's is broken.

Robert Blunner
No. Caldwell, N.J.

I just read Curt Kimbel's letter and I totally agree with his feelings. When I

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read Steve Olson's summary of the Hester Pro Bowl (Vol. 5 No. 3) I thought he was one of the most together skaters on the circuit. But when I read this letter and saw the photos, I decided he had turned totally commercial. No together human would pick his/her nose for the hell of it in front of a camera. Also, if Tony really threw his trophy away, he doesn't deserve to even be invited next year!

Jess Engdahl
Dogtown, Calif.

I just got through reading your June '79 issue. Before I read this issue, I was a devoted fan of Alva, but after I read the mag I was totally against him. What a jerk! Don't get me wrong, you've got a great mag. But I don't see where Alva gets off! He's so damn conceited, he throws his 2nd place trophy in the trash! I totally agree with Curt Kimbel. We don't need him!

"Joe Moma" Clayton

Curt Kimbel said that the low point of the SkateBoarder Poll Banquet was that the two most respected skateboarders have no respect for the industry. Mr. Kimbel should realize that people have a right to dress and act the way they feel. If it ticks him to see someone act differently than himself, he should stay home. Possibly the real reason Mr. Kimbel was disappointed was that he didn't make the top 20 in the Poll. Mr. Kimbel also said that SKATEBOARDER should discourage the way these people act. Seems that Mr. Kimbel has something against individualism. SKATEBOARDER should be just the voice of the people, not the controlling head. If SKATEBOARDER decided to say, "This person doesn't subscribe to our beliefs, let us ostracize him until he decides to act the way we tell him to," SKATEBOARDER would be acting as if they had the right to mold people's minds to one objective. That means that there would be no individualism; without individuals like Alva and Olson, many a skater would not be a skater. I would have never tried skating if I had never seen a picture of Alva three years ago.

Chris

"Can you plead tolerance and, at the same time, strongly condemn Curt?"
... Ed.

BRAZILIANS BLAZE!

It's about time to write you, since I moved from Brazil to the U.S. almost a year ago. Brazil has a couple of good skateparks (especially Rio, S. Paulo and P. Alegre) and their level of riding is rising just like yours. You guyz should "mobilize" your photographers and "invade" Brazil! You should put those insane rats on your mag (Kai, Alex, Dudu, Dorinho) instead of going to Puerto Rico (see Vol. No. 9) and



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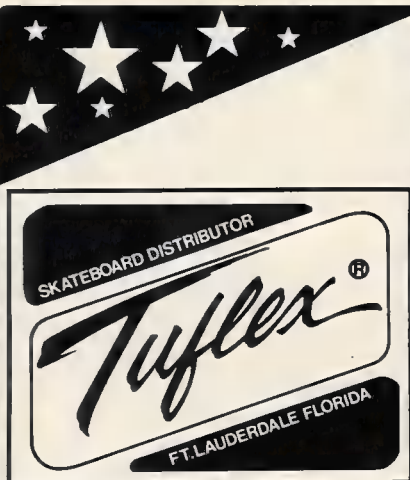
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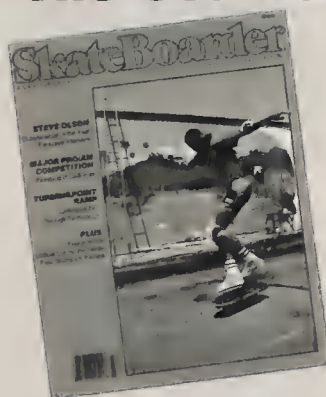
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photographing freestyle on streets. No kidding! Brazil's got heavy riders!

F.A.

Bronxville

BUMMED BEARINGS

I have a Bahne 28" deck, Bernard trucks and Cadillac Cruiser wheels.

I don't know much about skateboards so I was wondering if I have to change bearings or cushions after a while. The reason I ask is because when I'm just standing on my board and leaning from side to side, the trucks squeak. They also squeak when I kickturn. (I only weigh 85 pounds.) If you could help me I would really appreciate it.

Michigan Boarder

Tim Wojan

"Check 'Keeping Your Wheels Tuned' on page 13 for information on bearing care." . . . Ed.

STOKED/UNSTOKED

I would like to thank you for SKATEBOARDER Magazine and the way you keep it up-to-date. I have been skateboarding for about three years now and have about 20 issues of your magazine. The photographs that amaze me the most are of poolriding; so leave in the vertical riding and keep your magazine hot.

Jimmy Eubanks

Woodruff, S.C.

Can't you guys take any criticism? I've never seen you print any really MEAN letters before and when you do, it seems that the people complain just then, when you've got the article they want to see. Afraid of bad publicity?

Rupert

Holland

"So much for constructive criticism." . . . Ed.

Your mag is totally hot! I read one issue for a month until the new one comes. Do you guys see any chance in the future that your mag could be delivered say twice a month or even weekly? That would be the ultimate!

T.R.

New Jersey

"Please don't give the publishers any ideas!" . . . Ed.

I have just gotten into skating and your mag helped. I am totally lost in the skate scene (Off the Wall, Dog town, and Elmer). Now, I don't live in California (boy, I'd love to) so offer some help, like a decoder or something.

A Lost Skater

Boon Hics, N.H.

I just wanted to tell you the record review is one of the best ideas you've ever had. It's really great and I've picked up some good albums just by reading the reviews.

Steve McAdams

Butte (Stuck in the Mud) Montana

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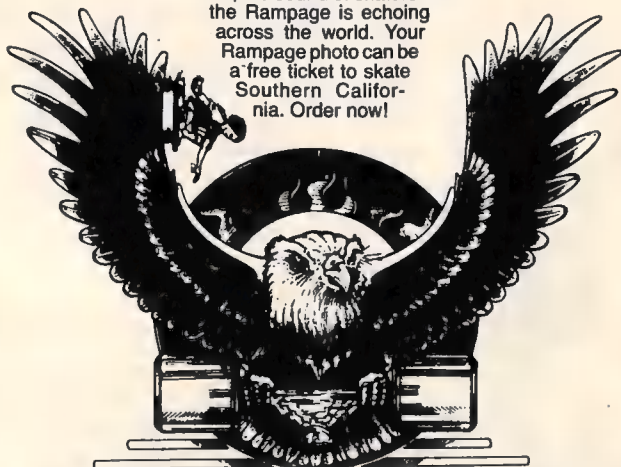
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FIXED?

In your January '79 issue Vol. 5 No. 6) on page 101 you have a photo of Doug Schneider riding the pipe at High Roller in Phoenix. Is it a coincidence that he's wearing exactly the same clothes and using the same skate on your May '79 cover?

I never though you'd stoop to fixing your photos!

Sincerely,
Marc "Don't revoke my subscription" Laurick

"We congratulate you on your clever observation, especially since the first photo is in black and white and the second is in color . . . Besides, his tennies are different!" . . . Ed.

HEAD PLANT

We would like to announce the development of the ultimate skate trick. We call it the "head-plant aerial." It is done like a bunny-hop off the vert except you plant your forehead on the cope. Glassware may be taped to the helmet for added destructive effect. We would gladly write a "Skate Tip" for your magazine on the head-plant aerial upon your request. Goofy has wired this trick in the salad bowl and is suffering only minor brain damage. We thought that it was our duty to inform you of this remarkable skating advancement.

Mike Stender and Curt Meyer
Duluth, Minnesota

"Send full documentation and medical reports (head x-rays, psychiatric evaluations, etc.)" . . . Ed.

SOMEBODY

I have been skating for about three years. Granted, I might not be considered radical by some people's standards. But when I skate I feel like I'm *somebody*. Whether it's going down a twisting snake run or in a bowl, I sometimes get a rush after finishing and doing something that I haven't done before.

And isn't that the whole essence of going for it — the satisfaction that you get from doing something that not everyone can do? After trying and falling, you finally get it right.

I've made so many new friends since I took up skating. It's easy when the stranger and you share a common bond. Keep up the good work with the magazine.

Eddie Clarke, U.S.M.C.
Cherry Point, N.C.

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Film Reviews



FALL LINE is a multi-sport film dwelling on flow-motion sports, including but not limited to, surfing, snow skiing, single skiing, Winter Stick riding, hang gliding and skateboarding (Bahne Team Carlsbad; Spring, 1978). Produced, written, directed and narrated by Nat Young, a former World Surfing Champion, the film is generally worthwhile despite a few slow sequences. *FALL LINE* has already been sold to Australian TV and Channel 52 (cable) in L.A. The U.S. Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) will also eventually be handling the film. Suggest it to your local PBS station and tune in!



Greg LeMons is still shooting and editing his *SKATEBOARD FILM FESTIVAL*, a series of short films covering various aspects of the sport. We have already seen Greg's "ARA Colorado Series" and "Hester Series — Numero Uno," which, though lacking titles and narration, looked very promising. We'll keep you posted.



Lyceum Productions' *SKATEBOARD-ING SERIES* consists of two educational film strips developed for use through school film libraries. Part I is a well-conceived history of the sport, while Part II discusses basic principles. Have your instructor contact Lyceum Productions, Inc., P.O. Box 1295, La Puente, CA 91749 for details.



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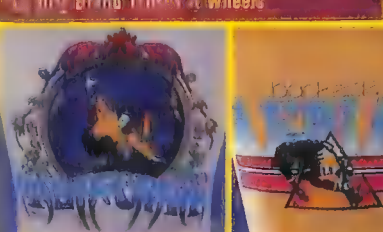
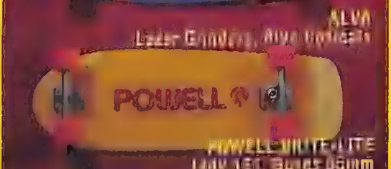
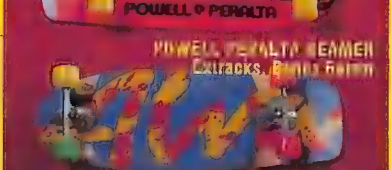
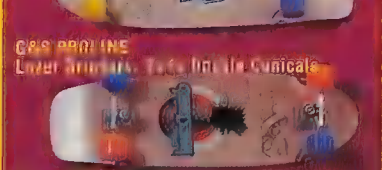
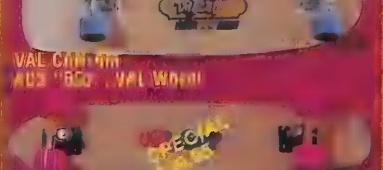
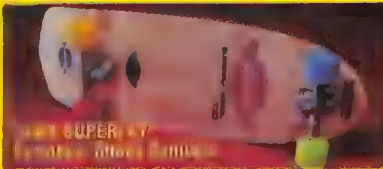
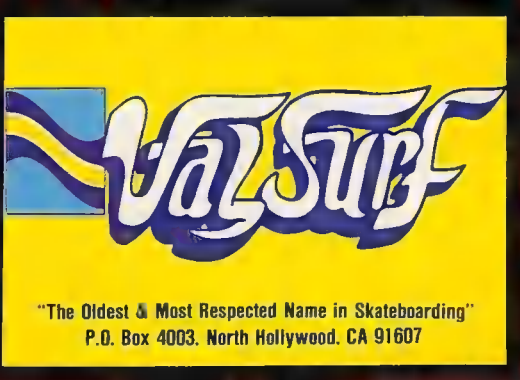
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ALVA: ☐ Flat Back \$8.50, ☐ Conical \$8.95. **DOG TOWN ROCK 'N' ROLLER:** ☐ Flat Back \$8.50, ☐ Conical \$8.95.

WINGS: ☐ Reg. \$7.50, ☐ Wide \$8.50 ☐ Y88 ☐ 094, ☐ Conical \$8.95.

HOBIE: ☐ Claws \$7.95, ☐ Cheater (alum. core) \$9.95. **OJ:** ☐ Slalom \$5.50, ☐ Hot Juice \$6.50, ☐ Super Juice \$6.95, ☐ Radial — ☐ 63mm \$7.95, ☐ 65.5mm \$8.95.

PARK RIDER: ☐ #4 \$6.95, ☐ #5.5 \$7.95, ☐ #5.5 Nucleus \$8.95, ☐ #5 \$5.50.

ROAD RIDER: ☐ #2 \$3.95, ☐ #4 \$5.50. **EMOTION \$4.95.** **QUIX \$7.95.**

GYRO (alum. core): ☐ 65mm \$10.95. **TUNNELL:** ☐ Rock \$4.95. **"Z":** ☐ Z-Smooth \$6.95, ☐ Z-Conical, ☐ Z-Groove \$7.50 ☐ w/ "Z" Bearing System — \$5.50 per.

VAL SURF: ☐ 2 1/2" x 2" \$4.95, ☐ Conical \$6.50. **POWERFLEX:** ☐ #7 \$4.95, ☐ #9 \$7.95.

TRAKNOLOGY: ☐ 65mm \$4.95, ☐ 68mm \$5.50. **UFO:** ☐ Reg. \$4.95, ☐ Saurer \$10.95.

ALLIGATOR: ☐ Reg. \$7.95, ☐ Supergator \$8.95.

SAFETY EQUIPMENT

HELMETS: ☐ PROTEC (s.m.l.xl) \$22.95; **FLYAWAY (s.m.l.)** — ☐ Blue ☐ Black w/ white pinst \$29.95, ☐ Black Deluxe \$34.95; ☐ NORCON (xs.s.m.l.) \$12.95.

ELBOW PADS (xs.s.m.l.): ☐ VAL SURF \$5.95; ☐ COOPER \$6.95; ☐ FLARICO/ALL STAR \$4.95; **RECTOR** — ☐ Reg. \$12.95, ☐ Protector (w/cap) \$18.95; ☐ NORCON \$13.95; ☐ KRYPTONICS \$13.50.

KNEE PADS (xs.s.m.l.): ☐ FLARICO — ☐ Reg. \$4.95, ☐ w/Cap \$6.95; **RECTOR** — ☐ Reg. \$13.95, ☐ Protector (w/cap) \$19.95; ☐ NORCON \$14.95; ☐ KRYPTONICS \$14.95.

WRIST GUARDS (s.m.l.): ☐ HOBIE \$24.95; ☐ RECTOR \$26.95; ☐ KRYPTONICS \$24.95; ☐ SANJON \$19.95.

GLOVES (xs.s.m.l.): ☐ RECTOR PALM PADS \$16.50; ☐ SIMS \$24.95; ☐ VAL SURF \$7.95; ☐ EAGLE \$12.95; ☐ KIP \$9.95.

SKATE PANTS: ☐ RECTOR (2-tone) \$27.50; ☐ SKATEPADS Pro \$27.50; ☐ KRYPTONICS \$26.95; ☐ NORCON Kidney Pads (worn under shorts) \$9.95; **Waist:**

SHOES: ☐ NIKE (suede-high tops) \$33.95; **HOBIE** — ☐ Hi-Tops \$22.95, ☐ Low-Cuts \$19.95; ☐ VAN (ankle) GUARDS \$7.95; **Shoe Size** _____

APPAREL

SK-OX SKATEBOARD SOCKS: ☐ Adult \$3.50pr. ☐ Youth \$3.25pr. — ☐ VAL SURF, ☐ Skateboard Magazine, ☐ Kryptonics, ☐ Tracker, ☐ Sims, ☐ G&S, ☐ ACS, ☐ Alva, ☐ Lazer, ☐ "Z", ☐ Bennett, ☐ Gull Wing, ☐ Powerflex, ☐ Dog Town.

HEAD BANDS, \$1.50 each: ☐ Skateboard Magazine, ☐ Kryptonics, ☐ Sims, ☐ I.S.A., ☐ ACS, ☐ Lazer, ☐ G&S, ☐ Hobie, ☐ Logan, ☐ Powerflex, ☐ Bolt.

RECTOR AIRBORNE SHIRTS (xs-xl) \$17.50. **HATS:** ☐ \$4.95; ☐ Sims, ☐ Skateboard Magazine, ☐ Surfer, ☐ Gull Wing, ☐ VAL SURF, ☐ Indy, ☐ Town & Country (\$5.95), ☐ G&S.

SHORTS: ☐ OP Cords \$14; ☐ Quicksilver \$18; **Waist** _____

T-SHIRTS

ADULT—Sizes: S(34-36), M(38-40), L(42-44), XL(46)

Styles: Short Sleeve (A/L) \$6.50, Long Sleeve w/sleeve print (A/L) \$8.50

CHILDREN—Sizes: S(6-8), M(10-12), L(14-16), XL(18)

Styles: Short Sleeve (C/S) \$4.95, Long Sleeve w/sleeve print (C/L) \$6.95

The style of shirts that are available with a given design are indicated after design title and ONLY THOSE STYLES. If desired, list first three color preferences...color substitution may still be necessary.

☐ California Skbd. ☐ C/S ☐ C/L ☐ A/S ☐ A/L ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL

☐ Backside Aerial ☐ C/S ☐ A/S ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL

☐ VAL SURF Specialists ☐ C/S ☐ C/L ☐ A/S ☐ A/L ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL

☐ VAL SURF Skbd. Capital ☐ C/S ☐ C/L ☐ A/S ☐ A/L ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL

☐ VAL SURF Stripe ☐ C/S ☐ A/S ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL

☐ Skate Stripe ☐ C/S ☐ A/S ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL

☐ Tracker ☐ C/S ☐ A/S ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL

☐ Kryptonics (circle) ☐ C/S ☐ A/S ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL

☐ Kryptonics (rectangle) ☐ C/S ☐ A/S ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL

☐ Independent (Indy) ☐ C/S ☐ A/S ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL

☐ Dog Town Skates ☐ C/S ☐ A/S ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL

☐ Sims (Wings) ☐ C/S ☐ C/L ☐ A/S ☐ A/L ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL

☐ Sims Snake ☐ C/S ☐ A/S ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL

☐ Sims Pro Shirt A/S only at \$14 ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL

(Not Shown) ☐ Alva, ☐ Lazer, ☐ Gull Wing, ☐ ACS, ☐ Bennett, ☐ G&S, ☐ "Z", ☐ Powerflex, ☐ Town & Country, ☐ Lonnie Toft, ☐ C/S ☐ A/S ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL

ROLLER SKATES

☐ "JOGGERS" \$49.95, ☐ VAN'S/ACS \$52.95, ☐ CHICAGO Suede \$64.95 + 8x price of wheel of your choice—total complete price per pair; ☐ MAKHA complete w/wheels \$66.95 (Shoe Size _____).

ACCESSORIES

Grip Tape, per foot, widths: ☐ 1" 20¢, ☐ 2" 40¢, ☐ 3" 60¢, ☐ 4" 80¢, ☐ 6" \$1, ☐ 8" \$1.20, ☐ 10" \$1.50, ☐ BIK, ☐ Red ☐ Blu, ☐ Clr. \$1.75; ☐ "Gnarly Stuff" (pizza tape) 10" \$2.75ft.

Elevator Shock Pads, each: Vinyl, colors — ☐ 1/4" 50¢, ☐ 1/2" 75¢; **Tracker** — ☐ 1/4" ☐ 1/2" 75¢; ☐ Lazer 3/8" 75¢; ☐ Cell Blocks 3/8" 50¢; **Rubber** — ☐ 1/4" 25¢, ☐ 1/2" 30¢.

Precision Bearings, each: ☐ AZF German Speed, ☐ IKS \$1; ☐ Sims Gold Racing, ☐ Kryptonics \$1.50.

Truck Rubbers: ☐ ACS Suspension Kit (12) \$2.50, ☐ "Stabilizers" (4) \$1.95; ☐ "Clouds" (8) \$2.95, ☐ Alva (4) \$2, ☐ Bennett (4) \$2, ☐ Tracker (4) \$2, ☐ Indy (4) \$1.50, ☐ Gull (4) \$1.75.

Truck Sliders: ☐ "No Hang" \$3.50; ☐ "Lip Slider" \$5.50; ☐ "Ventrac" \$7.95.

Tail Skids: ☐ "Power Pivot" 3.50; ☐ "Tail Tap" \$1.95; ☐ "Dual Wedge" — ☐ "360°", ☐ "5 1/2" Dome" \$1.50; ☐ "6 1/4" or "7 1/4" Dome" \$1.95; ☐ 7 1/4" Wood Ply \$1.95.

Wrenches: ☐ "4-Way" \$1.95; ☐ "5-Way" \$2.50, ☐ "Nose Guard" \$1.95/kit, ☐ "Skyhooks" \$5.95, ☐ "Robinak" — ☐ Pro Duffin \$32.95, ☐ Skate Bag (wide) \$19.95, ☐ Slalom Cones, \$1 ea. #, ☐ "Bennett" metal conversion plate, each, \$2.50.

☐ Variflex Lube Tube \$1.25, ☐ "Grabair" \$1.95, ☐ Mounting Hardware, 8-Lock Nuts & Bolts ☐ 1 1/4" ☐ 1 1/2" ☐ 1 3/4" \$1.25/set.

LICENSE PLATE FRAMES: ☐ U.S.A. SKATEBOARDING, ☐ U.S.A. SURFING, ☐ California, ☐ I'd Rather Be Surfing, ☐ Set of 2 \$5.50, ☐ 1 frame \$2.95.

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Skate Tips

Number Thirty-seven

THE FOOT PLANT

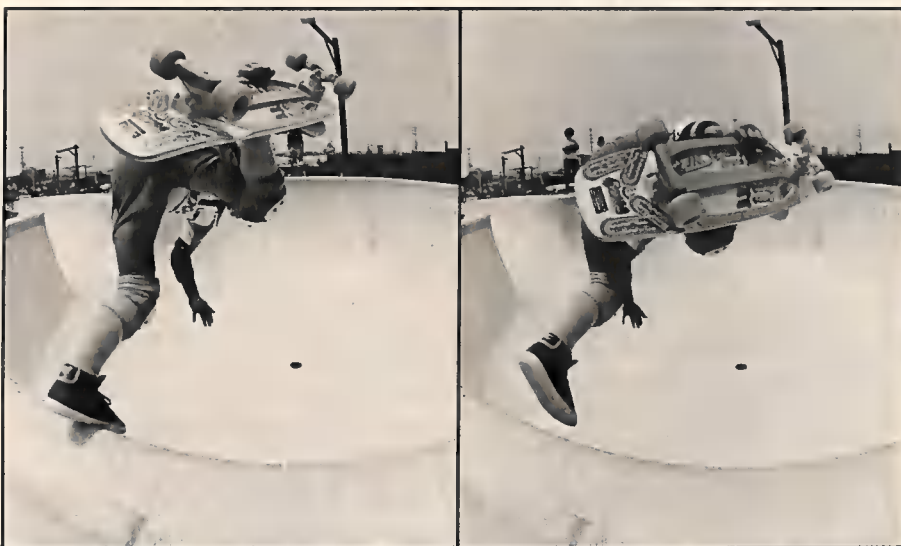
by Lonny Hiramoto

In the middle of summer, 1978, when I was 13, I saw Eric Gresham try the foot plant maneuver. Once in awhile Eric pulled it off. I watched and practiced. By the end of that summer, I really had the maneuver wired.

The foot plant is my most difficult maneuver, even harder than my alley-oop invert or aerial tail-tap stall.

FINE POINTS

1. It is easier to learn on non-coping because coping throws you out.
2. If you have your backside tail-tap aerial down, the foot plant comes a lot easier.
3. As you approach the backside tail-tap aerial, just before your tail hits for the tap, grab your board with your right hand. (If you're a goofy-footer, you'll use your left hand.)
4. With your board in hand, you must land exactly at the edge of the pool or bowl on your back foot, keeping your forward foot in place.
5. Facing the bowl, drop your board in front of you (far enough away from the edge to avoid any hang-up) and jump back in on your board, securely weighting down on your forward foot first and following naturally with the back foot.
6. It's important to keep your weight forward to help prevent yourself from falling while re-entering.



Lonny, early foot-plant master, shows how at Marina.

7. Once you get the foot plant wired, try it on some good vertical. After a while, a more vertical wall will make the maneuver easier because your board has less chance of pulling away from you. Still, coming off coping is radical — you get thrown

out — but when you pull it off, it's a heavy head rush!

8. Finally, the foot plant should be done in one fluid motion. No stalls! At first it may take some hair to jump back in; but, as far as I'm concerned, it's definitely worth it!

CASSIMUS

Competition Briefs

RAINBOW WAVE SKATEPARK

Tampa, Fl.

The Rainbow Wave Pro-Am was billed as a "contest for skaters, by skaters," in the sponsors' belief that the contestants should be involved in the basic decision making — such as order of events, number of runs, time for routines, etc. — and oddly enough, it seemed to work.

Amateur bowl and halfpipe riding filled the bill on Saturday, with the bowl competition serving as an appetizer for the highly energized halfpipe competition. In the boys' division it was Ray Diez and Mike McGill skating back-to-back with tie scores on each run; after their low and high scores were computed back in, there was still only half a point between them with Diez taking it. Nobody seemed too surprised when "Ollie" Gelfand grabbed first, executing his patented no-grab aeriels in the Jr. Men's. George McClelland proved to all that living in a halfpipe for three weeks does pay off; his fast, strong style gave him the edge and a first on Dan Murray and Steve Anderson in the Men's.

The judging for the amateur events was handled most competently by the pros on hand, the likes of Kelly Lynn and Clyde Rodgers, Shaun Peddie, Mike Folmer and Tim Scroggs. Results were announced almost immediately through the use of Walter Nowlen, who is a calculus major at the nearby University of South Florida. Skaters were also able to select their own tunes from a stock of about fifty tapes.

When the day's competition drew to a close, everyone's attention turned to procuring an improper state of mind and snaking the local skate groupies.

From all reports, many of the competitors achieved their goal and survived to skate on Sunday — thus proving themselves true athletes.

Sunday's competition began with the Cross-Country for amateurs, which was won by Ray Diez, Lonnie Ritter and Ed Womble in their respective age groups. Then the pros went to work and Scott "Red" McCranels recorded the day's fastest time and took the money. The skating in the Pro-bowl was good, but one could tell they were hurting for a real pool. However, that fact didn't stop Kelly Lynn from earning a 1st and some cash to boot. Then it was onto the halfpipe (some think it's Florida's best). The skating was definitely of the pro caliber. The judges employed for the pros were the winners from the amateur events and theirs was no easy job. As it turned out, Kelly Lynn took 1st with the smooth and casual abandon that has become his trademark, spicing up his routine with hand plants and axle stalls. Hot on his heels was Shaun Peddie, 2nd, who pulled off a seven-board suicide drop and executed some relatively new moves like foot plants. Probably the biggest surprise was Tim Scroggs, who applied his bank and freestyle magic to the vert and took 3rd.

Unlike most contests, there were no protests (probably because the few hassles which did arise were settled by the skaters), no time-over runs (efficient organization), and no bad vibes (treat skaters with respect and they'll respect you). There were also no great prizes (only trophies) and no huge bucks for the pros; but no one complained because it was a chance for friends from all around the state to get together and see who's hot, catch some new moves, do a little partying and generally have a good time. And isn't that what skating is really all about?

— Kit Traverso

PRO-AM RESULTS

BOWL RIDING

Boys (14 & Under)

1. Chris Baucom (Sensation Basin)
2. Pete Martin (Z-East)

Jr. Men (15-17)

1. Alan Gelfand (Powell)
2. Peter Andrews (Sensation Basin)

Men (18 & Over)

1. Pat Love (Ind.)
2. Alton Banks (Rainbow Wave)

HALFPIPE

Boys

1. Ray Diez (Rainbow Wave)
2. Mike McGill (Rainbow Wave)

Jr. Men

1. Alan Gelfand (Powell)
2. Tab Textor (Sims)

Men

1. George McClelland (Clearwater)
2. Dan Murray (Ind.)

CROSS-COUNTRY

Boys

1. Ray Diez (Rainbow Wave)
2. Micha Alabach (Z-East)

Jr. Men

1. Lonnie Ritter (Rollin' Waves)
2. John McClelland (Clearwater)

Men

1. Ed Womble (Sensation Basin)
2. Dan Murray (Ind.)

PRO (WINNER TAKE ALL)

Bowl Riding

1. Kelly Lynn \$30.00 (Markel)
2. Chris West (Sundancer)

HALFPIPE

1. Kelly Lynn \$30.00 (Markel)
2. Shaun Peddie (Walker)

CROSS-COUNTRY

1. Scott McCranels \$30.00 (Sims)
2. Kelly Lynn (Markel)

TEAM STANDINGS

- | | |
|--------------------|---------|
| 1. Rainbow Wave | 25 pts. |
| 2. Clearwater | 24 pts. |
| 3. Sensation Basin | 16 pts. |
| 3. Z-East | 16 pts. |
| 4. Powell | 10 pts. |
| 5. Sims | 9 pts. |

POOL DUEL '79, Cascade Skatepark, Catonsville, Md.

Held in the indoor pool at Cascade, this amateur competition attracted 42 skaters from the Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia areas.

POOL FREESTYLE

12-14

1. Tim Cunningham (Airflow)
2. Pat Clark (Airflow)

15-17

1. Dan Hayman (Toke Team)
2. Ed Tyler (Atlantic)

18 & Over

1. Bob Strange (Atlantic)
2. Miles Rolph (SkateWorld)

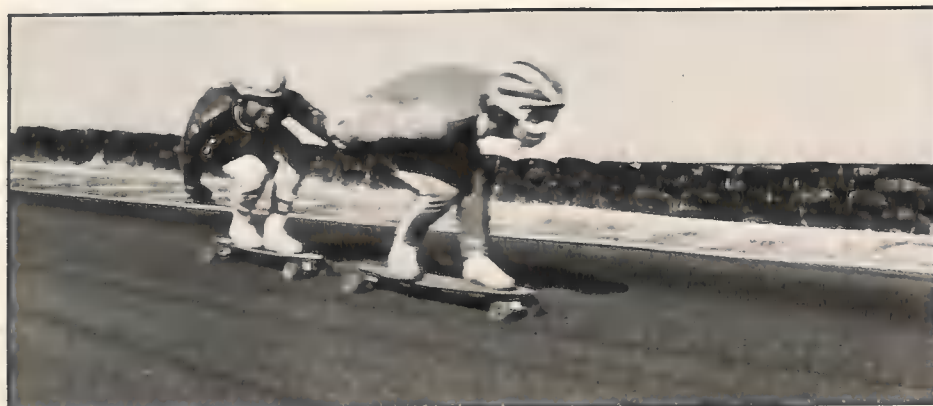
AIRIALS — OPEN AGE

1. Dan Hayman 29" (Toke Team)
2. Ed Tyler 26" (Atlantic)

ONE WHEELERS — OPEN AGE

1. Ed Tyler (Atlantic)
2. David Tobin (Toke Team)

Hutson and Goldman battle it out at the Laguna Seca Downhill race. Watch for coverage next issue.



TERREBONNE

360/OASIS AMATEUR CONTEST

Oasis Skatepark, San Diego, CA.

POOL RIDING

11 & Under

1. Gina Esperanza
2. Pete King

12-14

1. Allen Losi
2. Mike Hirsch

15-17

1. Eddie Elguera
2. Kyle Jensen

18 & Over

1. Pat Weaver
2. Alejandro Garibay

SLALOM

11 & Under

1. Mark Lambert
2. Ky Lambert

12-14

1. Dave Mann
2. Phillip Jetton

15-17

1. Bill Hanes
2. Fred Byle

18 & Over

1. Paul Butler
2. Kent Schiffman

FREESTYLE

11 & Under

1. Gina Esperanza
2. Ky Lambert

12-14

1. Phillip Jetton
2. Squeaky Haynes

15-17

1. Mark Schmid
2. Warren Sellers

18 & Over

1. Chris Hinds
2. Mike Robinson



Mark Schmid, Oasis Freestyle event.



Pat Weaver, Oasis Poolriding event.



Rick Howell and Kent Schiffman. Oasis slalom.

UPCOMING

The "Walker Pro Racing Classic," mistakenly reported to be scheduled for June 1979, is actually due sometime next fall. The two-day contest will feature three or four different races (no freestyle or bankriding). Contact Bruce Walker at (305) 723-9420.

Southern California's Association of Skate-Park Owners, Inc. (ASPO) began their second year of league competition in May. Events include slalom and bowlriding (again, no freestyle), and are held at member parks on Wednesday evenings. Also

planned is a mid-season "all star" meet, pitting the top amateurs from the Northern California league against ASPO's best. Contact Lou Peralta at (213) 344-7040, 348-4648; or Doug Noble, (213) 705-5978, 343-8354.

The Hester Pro-Bowl at Del Mar Skate Ranch is due July 21-22. This will be the park's first pro outing and, fittingly, it will be covered by CBS' "Sports Spectacular." Be there or be watching for it on the tube later this year.

This summer the National Skateboarder Association, a Colorado-based group, is sponsoring a

series of contests at Colorado skateparks. The competition includes slalom competition, pool competition, halfpipe competition, and freestyle competition. All contests are amateur and will be broken up into age groups: 8 and under, 9-12, 13-15, 16-18, Open Amateur, and Geriatrics. For further information call (303) 761-1269.

Watch for coverage of Hester #2 at Boulder, Co., June 30-July 1. The remaining Hester Series schedule includes: U.S. Freestyle Championships, August 4-5 (no points), location to be announced; Whittier, CA., August 18-19; Upland, CA., September 15-16.

Roll'n Rock

by Corky Carroll

First off, thanks for all the mail. We have been totally beseiged with letters in support of hard rockers Ted Nugent and Led Zeppelin and, on the other hand, in favor of punk and New Wave! What's the deal, you guys have a war going on out there or something? Anyway, all of your letters get read and your suggestions are appreciated. Remember, our top-ten chart each month is compiled totally from the mail we receive. Sticking with my policy of bringing you a variety of material, this month we have some hot picks covering the gambit from hard rock to pop, and from New Wave to country rock! Hope you like the records and don't forget to keep those cards and letters coming!



REMOTE CONTROL The Tubes

A&M SP 4751

One of the most innovative bands of the seventies, the "Tubes" are right on the money with this album. "Remote Control" is truly full of music perfect for skating! Solid rock 'n roll back beat and great songs. The album pretty much revolves around the wonders of television, with most of the songs upbeat and hot!

Side one is my favorite. Still, I enjoyed every one of the tunes on both sides, with "Turn Me On" and "T.V. is King" impressing me as the hits of the album. There really isn't much else I can say about this one except I strongly recommend it for your collection if rock 'n roll is your bag!

CHRIS DARROW Fretless

Pacific Arts PAC 7-132

Chris Darrow is one of those guys who has been on hundreds of records with everybody from James Taylor to blues great, Johnny "Guitar" Watson. He has been a member of the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, the Kaleidoscope, Linda Ronstadt and Hoyt Axton's bands and has had three previous solo albums that have been received with considerable critical acclaim, especially in England and Europe! His new release, "Fretless," is Chris' best work to date and truly shows off his versatility as singer, songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist. Especially

showcased here is the slide guitar work for which he is most renowned.

The songs range from driving rock 'n roll to full country, with a little bit of everything else in between. My favorite cuts include "Joaquin" (the saga of Joaquin Murrieta), "Orphans of the Storm" and a beautiful Hawaiian instrumental titled "Oceania." Also, appearing on percussion is Steven Darrow, hot "Badland's" skate punk and drummer!

All you country rock fans will love this one for sure!

THE SQUEEZE Cool for Cats

A&M SP-4759

These guys really sound a lot like the Beatles and I was pleasantly surprised upon hearing their record! The songs are classic. The words might be a bit "mature" for some of you and parental discretion is advised in this case. However, I love records that not only have me tapping my feet but laughing at the same time. It's O.K. for rock 'n roll to be funny, too, I think.

Anyway, these guys have taken very intelligent and serious musical formats and filled in some witty and at times nasty words. The titles include "Slap & Tickle," "It's So Dirty," "Up the Junction," and "Slightly Drunk."

All in all this stuff is really good skating music. It's got the beat. I wouldn't recommend this for religious people or those of you too young to get it, but for the rest I think you'll really get into it!

THE B-52s Rock Lobster

B-52 Records DB-52-A

New Wave surf music by a group from Georgia? Whew and huzza for sure! It's not rock, it's "Rock Lobster!"

Using old surf music styles from the early sixties and hyper-punk-type rhythms combined with lyrics that came down from the sea of tranquility during a meteor shower, the B-52s may have landed one of the better tunes of the New Wave era. I mean the B-52s may have truly dropped a bomb with this one.

To truly get the impact of "Rock Lobster" you've got to live it. That's why I like it — I honestly believe that in an earlier incarnation I was one of the first rock lobsters myself.

Anyway, if your record store is out of this one you can write directly to the B-52s at Box 1906, Athens, Georgia 30601. That might get you either a live rock lobster or a live bomb! Good luck! 🐞

TOP TEN

1. Led Zeppelin
2. Ted Nugent
3. Lynyrd Skynyrd
4. Poco
5. Boston
6. Devo
7. Charley Daniels Band
8. Fleetwood Mac
9. The Police
10. Bob Marley

SkateBoarder Interview:

Curt Kimbel

by Benito Schwartz

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JIM RICHMOND



Curt Kimbel has the distinction of being among the most successful, multifaceted competitors in recent skateboard history. Placing eighth overall in two of the most credible series to date, The 1978 Hester Series and the Colorado ARA races, Curt has shown beyond a doubt that he is one of the fiercest contestants in any contest, any terrain. What's more, Curt openly savors that distinction.

A true competitor in spirit ("It's hard

to just 'play' - I want to win"), Curt seems to find in competition a useful direction in which to channel enormous energies and test well-developed skills. One might even suggest that this drive is usually a full-on compulsion, although a healthy one.

Curt Kimbel has a lust for life. The game plan includes not only skating, but surfing, skiing, motorbike riding, pinball and just about anything else he comes across. Curt realizes that he

went against the grain, dropping out of college a year ago to skate "professionally," especially since the rewards aren't the kind that accumulate in a bank account. Bright, articulate and self-confident, he could be making a good living doing any number of things. But Curt prefers to ride - because of the fun and because of the challenge. And for such an insane skater, what could be more sane?



(Above) Layback, Del Mar.

(Opposite page top) Confident slalom footwork, La Costa.

(Opposite page bottom) Speeding in style, La Costa.

What have you been up to?

Well, I surfed all morning. It was great!

How long have you been into surfing?

Not long, three or four years, maybe. I kneeboarded for awhile and then I've been surfing a lot for a year. I want to surf a lot more.

Were you surfing when you were living in Upland?

Mostly on my skateboard. In the eighth grade I bought a surfboard and I'd go surf once in a great while. We'd go to the waves on Sixth Street and be Gerry Lopez. Shorts and no shoes.

Was that the Rick Howell school of thought?

That was before I knew Rick Howell. Just my neighbors, guys you never heard of. We'd do head dips in the bushes. We were just imitating surfers—boards with swallow tails. There were no skateboard magazines out then, just surfing magazines. We knew who all the hot surfers were. We just surfed on our skateboards.

Was that the late '60s?

Yeah. I surfed up and down my sidewalk and to the store. We knew every bump in town. That sort of thing. We rode Magnolia School every once in a while, that was like "the big wave." Six footer. Then I met Rick Howell and we got these boards just like surfboards (32 inches long with small swallow tails, and good trucks). They flexed. They were fiberglass.

Did you kickturn them at all?

A little bit, but it was a blast. I rode those boards for a long time. You could pump them. We watched [Steve] Evans do it and then two years later some kids on the street by me had tin cans lined up and I just ripped through them so fast, they couldn't hardly believe their eyes. I said, "Oh I must be slow." But I started doing it more and more.

Were you skiing at that time?

Yeah, a little bit. I also skied on my skateboard. I started skiing when I was 14.

You lived in Utah for a while didn't you?

Yeah. We went to Utah and I skied my brains out. That was three years ago, the drought year. Right before the Pipeline opened. Like I came home

from Utah and my dad, who worked with Mr. Hoffman for 25 years, said, "Some guy at work is building a skatepark here." So he told me where it was and I went up there and sure enough they were. I told Mr. Hoffman who I was and asked him if I could apply for a job and he gave me a job. So that's how I really got into skateboarding. I did it for fun and skated there every single day. We were addicts. We never had to pay a cent. We started wearing our pads more and then we started seeing the pros who came there. We'd see all the moves they were doing and that would make us skate even harder.

Who do you remember in particular?

Strople and Wally. There'd be a whole bunch of camera people. Wally would be flying out of the pipe and Strople mostly did edgers and slides and stuff—that was before aeriels.

By that time, were you starting to relate to skating as its own unique thing rather than as part of surfing?

A couple of my friends, Spif and Harpo, were pure surf all the way. They really didn't progress at all and do tricks. They just flowed cause that's what we did at Sixth Street. We all surfed it, even at the L-pool and Mt. Baldy pipe. When parks started happening it was pure surf skating for a long time. A lot of carves and stuff. Then all the pros started coming and doing neat tricks, like frontside grinders. And we started doing board slides and stuff like that on vertical. That was the first thing that I got attention for in skateboarding. Cassimus saw me one time and thought that was pretty hot. We could do a lot of moves just as good as anyone else but they usually didn't take pictures of us 'cause we had torn-up pants and worn-out gloves. We were just skateboard junkies all the way.

You progressed quickly. Why was that?

'Cause I was skating every day, all day. I was really jealous of the people that were getting all the coverage. Wally and Strople—they'd take 50 pictures of them and one picture of me. And I was ripping and tearing up. Greg Weaver would come; he'd hardly ride the pool and they'd take rolls and rolls of him.

Do you feel Upland is still a major energy center?

You bet. You can watch [Steve] Alba skate there. He rips. Alba's making

them look so bad that a lot of pros don't even want to skate there. If you're not on top of it that day, he'll rip you so bad you'll be disgusted.

What about Micke?

That kid's great. He's going to be really good. Not that he isn't already. But Steve is head and shoulders above anyone who skateboards. He's injured right now but if you happened to see him the day before he got hurt at Winchester, everyone was just shaking their heads sayin', "Man ...! He can do anybody's trick better than the person who invented it." There's nothing he can't do. He does it with power and speed and just rips it. I'm really impressed with Steve. Micke just plugs away and keeps practicing every day. When he gets big and strong like Steve, he's going to be a shredder too.

Who else impresses you?

Strople. I really like watching Strople skate.

Do you ever emulate anyone's style?

No. I did for awhile but I don't anymore. I think that I really can't concentrate on style. I have to concentrate on balance. You can't worry about what your fingertips are doing. You don't have time to think unless you're doing a back-side kickturn on a front-side grind or something like that. As far as just really hauling into a gnarly carve or doing an aerial edger, you can't think about anything except making it back into that pool and not hurting yourself.

It seems like there's a relationship between style and balance. People who came from surfing or early bank riding, they have that style ingrained in them. They'll show it whether they're skating real fast or not and not think about it.

I think one thing that really helps your skateboarding is crouching. People that can just tuck up in a ball have an advantage. I've seen them pull off unbelievable things that people who are standing upright on top of their boards never could. You have a lower center of gravity, you can get closer to the wall and hit harder. This one kid in particular, Kent Schiffman, is my favorite guy to watch skateboarding. He lives in Dana Point now. He's an amateur. He came in third in the air contest at the Marina. He crouches, tucks up into a ball and does all sorts of wild stuff. He pulls off





unexpected things. Most of the raddest are pulled off accidentally.

You think that's how progress is often made in skating? People get into an awkward position and develop it into something?

I think most progress is made when you think about it beforehand. You've got to think out a trick. Very few people think up their own tricks. They just copy others. Alba does it great. Bert LaMar has a lot of tricks. No original tricks but he can do all the tricks. David Andrecht is the same way. Maybe once in awhile they think of a trick.

Who are the originators?

You can't say because everyone originates something. Orton originated air. That's unreal. He opened a whole new way to skateboard. He opened the biggest door in skateboarding I see in recent past because, by him pulling off air he's showing all of us, "Hey, it's possible. You don't die every time you go up into the air out of the pool." In fact you can do it easily and not even get hurt. I've originated quite a few tricks just recently. Stuff like the L-drop. I can do these one-footed carves where I drag my foot on the coping or on the ground. It's easy to do but no one ever taught me. There's a billion more tricks to do. Each variation has ten different variations.

Where do you think skateboarding's going in terms of maneuvers?

More tricks—that's the only way for it to go. It would be a bummer if it slowed down—stopped at your last trick. Everything's got to be open to progress.

It's going to go in a lot of different directions?

Slalom's what really needs a boost. It's really fine point, it's not ragged and jagged (and poolriding is definitely ragged). What people want to see is the ragged edge. They want to see you going out there and hanging it out. When a guy is risking his life, people are hanging on the edge of their seat.

Slalom and downhill get pretty intense, too.

Yeah. And racing is something everyone can do. Everyone has a driveway, a street. If it's the first time, it's kind of tricky to do. A beginner skier can't ski race. And a beginner skateboarder can't slalom. It just takes time.

You raced slalom a lot last summer, didn't you?

Yeah, Merritt Edmunds of Astral saw me slalom at the Runway Contest and he figured I could do slalom really good. Then I went over to the Hester at Newark for him and Wally and I won the doubles and came in second in the one-wheelers. I got Ramson, Hawks and Evans together for him and we competed in the Colorado races and at Akron last summer. Drove all over the country and he paid us for it. He's a nice guy, I really liked him. That experience really opened up a big thing for me because now I like slalom as much as I like poolriding. Half and half. I'll go up one day at La Costa four or five hours and then maybe the next day I'll go to Del Mar Skate Ranch and skate a few runs. This week I've done slalom all week because there's a race coming up. That's going to be a great race; dual slalom, two people at the same time downhill.

What's your biggest rush?

Well, sometimes you barely make something. Your back foot will come off and hang you up and you'll lean over so far 'cause you're getting pitched and somehow you get your weight back, and somehow you pull it off. Like when you're going down somewhere like Signal Hill and you get a bad speed wobble and you somehow make it. You get a rush for about five minutes straight, a high. You just stand there at the bottom of the hill, tingling. I've done some downhill runs on my skis before—straight on down. At the bottom I feel totally exhausted, and— weird! My whole body gets tingly. I felt like those bubbles in champagne. I want to do it again, even if I'm so tired I can't.

You mentioned earlier how hard it is to make a living as a pro skater. Are you struggling now?

I'm really not *struggling*. I'm doing as good as I can but no skateboarders are doing well. Or very few. You have to be heavily associated with a company. I try to do my part for the company I'm working for. I help them in research and development, I help organize the team, I try to make sure the team members act respectably. I help them out in any way I can. Shape, design, I'll test anything. I even help sell the product. If I see a pro shop that doesn't have the stuff, I ask them to think about it and I get a couple of local kids to try it. Then they go buy it. And that's really the

bottom line, the kid that can do everything.

So your reward in skateboarding isn't really monetary?

No. It's the satisfaction that you can do something well. Most people can't even stand up on a skateboard; they're scared to death of them. I can get on a board and ride so well that I can get paid for it, enter competition and ride in the upper few percent. How many people in their lifetime ever get to be a professional athlete? This is something I'll be able to tell my kids. Very few are able to be a professional skateboarder. I imagine some day I'll probably get tired of it. Right now I'm really not patterning the rest of my life at all.

What else are you up to these days?

I just got a hang glider a little while ago. I've got to do everything in my life. Not just one thing. I raced motorcycles and go-carts, and I surf lots. I even raced slot cars. I get off on them once in awhile. I think what I'd like to do is race cars sometime. As far as poolriding, it's not a fine-art sport. There's no fine line. But in racing there is. You race against the clock, the competition and the codes. Really it's racing with yourself; you've got to do your personal best on that course and that's all that counts. Nothing else counts. As long as you concentrate and do the best you can, you're in there.

The only competition is with yourself?

Yeah. And they don't say, this guy's hands were looking a little better and I liked his style and that guy rides for that team so I'll give him a few more points. They don't do that stuff. The guy goes down the course, the electronic timer flashes and you see how many cones he hits; it's cut and dry. No matter who he rides for, who the judges are, it doesn't matter.

Do you think bowlriding can be judged fairly?

Super hard. In order to judge poolriding you've got to find people who aren't associated with companies. I'm not saying that these guys are bad or anything, but I have seen judges who I know judge their product or teammate higher. If his teammate wins they can use him in advertising. If he wins, the kids will think their product is great. It's an unreal plus for your company when you make your living off of it. I heard Tim Marting was a good judge at



(Above) Off-riding at La Costa.

(Opposite page) Extreme edger, Del Mar.



(Above) Kimbel faring, La Costa.

(Opposite page) Fine-tuned downhill racing, La Costa.

Marina del Rey 'cause the kid can see what's actually happening.

Why wasn't he skating in the contest?

I'm not sure. Anyway, it's really hard to know what it's like to do a super high aerial or a super high-speed carve. You don't even have any idea 'till you do it and you fall. That's when you really get respect for it. As far as these rules about counting points for falling, how can you say that? One guy goes up and does a backside kickturn and falls . . . three points off, right? The next guy does a carve, grinds it a couple of times, one foot comes off, he wobbles and gets back on going 50 mph and *then* he falls off. What do you do? When I'm judging, I sometimes even give them high points because of the unreal try. At Winchester I saw Kevin Reed make some unreal tries and I gave him high scores. I couldn't believe how hard the tricks were that he was doing. And the other judges had no idea how hard the tricks were. Every maneuver he did was totally unique.

■ weren't there problems with the running of the contest, too?

There were definitely problems as far as organization and money involved. A poolriding contest can really take the fun out of riding pools. You go to this contest and there are 50 kids all smarting off. If they get their picture in the magazine they think they're good—dirty little kids you've never seen in your life, who are so cool that you just can't hardly stand it, man. When I can go down to Del Mar [Skate Ranch] and skate with my good friend Strople, it's mellow. We can skate all night with no hassles, have a great time.

Who do you ■ for these days?

Hobie. They take me to contests, help me out on my rent. They're treating me real well. They're a good company to represent. Their Claw wheels are really fast and their wrist braces are excellent. Still, it's hard to make much money. Why should they pay me a lot? For every person like me, there are 500 amateur rippers, every day beating themselves to death and they'll do it for a skateboard. "Oh yeah, I'll skate twice as much now and twice as hard." And you ask them if they are getting a good deal and they say, "You bet, I got a set of wheels today and ■ set of pads." And everyone at their school thinks they're really big dudes 'cause they're on ■ team. It's really important to be on ■

team. It doesn't matter if they can skate that well or not. They are proud they are on a team. But the best team to be on is a team with your own peers. They accept and respect you and that's when it's the funnest, when you are respected not so much by the companies, as by the skateboarders. It's more important than anything else in skateboarding.

What else is important to you?

Well, this interview means that you guys think something of me over and above the ordinary skater. Maybe it's ego or something, 'cause you don't get paid that much, at least I don't—some pros might. You get to travel, there's other benefits. But the biggest benefit is being proud of what you're doing. If I didn't have fun skateboarding there's no way in the world I'd be doing it every day. I'd do something else; I'm strong and have a lot of get up and go. I could do a million things. This was something I happened to slide into and I'm having a good time; I'm staying. I'm not trapped, not stuck.

What about equipment? You're pretty enthusiastic about your speed boards.

Yeah, I've got some good speed boards. Rick Howell's making me this really nice one. I don't know if it's going to work, but boy, it's going to look neat. And then I have a Skitch Hitchcock. It weighs about 50 lbs. It's 6 ft. long with free axles and I hope it hauls, too. Whichever one goes fastest, that's the one I'm going to use.

What about for tight slalom?

Right now I use a Turner for tight slalom. I use an Ick Stick for giant and bank slalom and wherever else I can use it. I had the greatest Ick Stick tight slalom board and I let Dunlap get on it. He was jumping up and down and he stretched it out and that's why I use a Turner now. It takes a real long time to get ■ Ick Stick. But I should have about three more by the time this interview comes out.

What type of construction?

Fiberglass, foam, and variations in the lay-up. Rick's really into testing and development and design.

What about pool boards?

Hobie is making me a hot 10¾" deck, a good lamination. They've got me on a good program now.

What about trucks and wheels?

Tracker ExTracks. They turn great. I use Copers, too. I like the Tracker people; they back you up. The Independent trucks are also good trucks, no doubt about it. I'd really like to have some Independent suspension trucks. But as far as everyday—those magnesium Tracker trucks.

Does the weight of the truck make that big a difference?

I think it probably does on aerials. Like when your board hits the ground. I think the lesser weight helps your board to last longer 'cause when it falls the truck won't be apt to cause it to split quite as bad.

Which wheels do you ride?

I have flex wheels, hard ones, fat ones, skinny ones. I cruise around town on Kryptonite wheels, those are the best. Red Kryptonics are probably the best wheels there are for all-around riding. Skateboarding can be a good way to get around the gas problem. Those big red Kryptonics can go through dirt, across railroad tracks. I can even carve a dirt bank sometimes, if the dirt's kind of hard. They've always been real fair, very nice people.

Where do you like to ride?

Peter Camaan's ramp in Colorado is probably my favorite: with those mountains, big barbeque, all those mountain people going nuts. They all get up and try. It's such a fun thing. Gary Riche and Peter Camaan built that ramp at a total loss, moved it up to the mountains right in the middle of a pine forest. There was no one out there snaking you or hassling. I also go to the Arizona pipes with Harvey. As far as skateparks go, Del Mar is my favorite, my local park. I like it. But I'd much rather go skate a backyard pool. I like skating the Egg Bowl in Pomona; that's a great pool. Most people hate it but I love it. I like skating the bowl at Skate-In-The-Shade skatepark in Tempe, Arizona. It's the greatest pool, the best.

What about the pools in Northern California?

Those pools are the same: no square corners, no death boxes, no steps. There's so much in skating skateparks that's just boring—all the same, regular keyholes.

You mentioned about possibly going back to school. How far did you go?



(Above) Slaloming Black Hill, La Costa.

(Opposite page) Light-footed frontside in home turf, Del Mar.

Two-and-a-half years of business in college. I guess I quit to skateboard. When I came back from Colorado last year I quit going to school; I didn't really have a direction in going to school. The opportunity to go skateboarding was there, and if you're on top, you're on top that day. You've got to go for it that day. You can't put it off or it won't be there.

Opportunity knocks . . .

Exactly. I didn't want to risk it. I had a good time, met so many people, got to travel. I really like competition. I always have. I've been in every type of organized sport—baseball and basketball. I play so hard—chess, monopoly. It's hard to just "play"—I want to win.

What about pin ball?

I'm a pin-ball addict. That's part of warming up, you know. If you rip at pin ball, you're going to rip at skating.

Are you concerned about diet?

Yeah, my mom's in nutrition. She teaches. She's a nutritionist, a dietician and a gourmet cook. I always try to keep my meals fully rounded. And I can't see people like Charlie Ransom who exist on Dr. Pepper and candy bars. We went to Colorado and with \$40 for food, Charlie would get two jugs of chocolate milk, cookies, sugar, a big pack of candy bars. I guess his body can tolerate it; mine can't. I eat good. I stay skinny all the time but I never miss a meal. I'm active all the time. I get antsy if I'm not active; I feel like I'm wasting time. I have a whole lot of things to do.

What about drugs?

I skate totally sober.

You think skateboarding is still fragile enough to where you have to project a certain image?

You bet. Skateboarding is 13 and 14 year olds. That's the heart of skateboarding—when most start to skateboard at the parks and that's when they start buying products. If these kids stay home, they'll have a skateboard for five years and never even notice that there are wider boards made or better wheels. They won't know the difference. But skatepark kids are addicts and they put money into skateboarding and that's what backs the whole thing. If we turn them off skateboarding, there won't be any skateboarding. There are a lot of other sports kids can do. All my friends

skateboard. I do it 'cause I'm just happy doing it and have respect for what I do and it's worth it.

There must be a lot of other hot skaters out there doing it solely for the personal satisfaction.

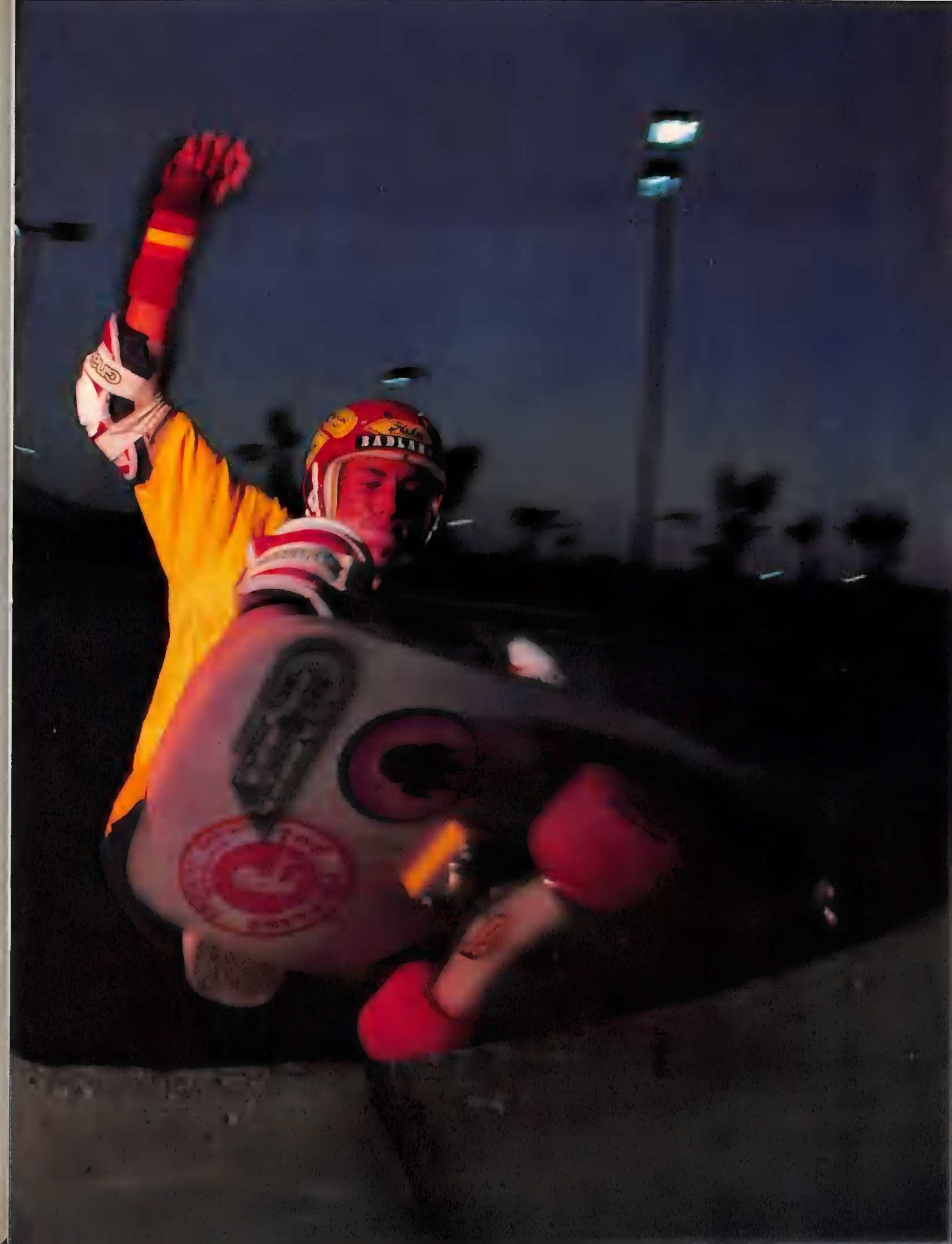
There's millions of kids out there, who knows where, riding the worst conditions ever. They look in the magazine every month and try all those new tricks and practice and they are starting so far under. Like Dale Acer in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Rick Fike from Washington and five of his friends went to the ARA races in the back of a Datsun truck, paid all their entry fees, raced their butts off in these downhill races. They didn't say nothing. They didn't complain when everyone else did. Nicest people you ever want to meet. They just hopped back in their truck and went back to Washington. They haven't even been mentioned in the magazine. Someone like Fike tries so hard, and he stays with it. There's a million more like him.

Do you think that "success" spoils people?

Skateboarding doesn't make a person. If he can do a high aerial, a super whatever, that does not make him a person. These guys think they're so cool and better than others 'cause they can skate better. Some dense guy can ride a skateboard but as far as being a total person, fun to be around, enjoyable, it means nothing.

There's more to life than skateboarding?

Way more. Enjoy yourself, try to be friends to everyone, have a good time. To me it's a section of my life. It's going to give me good memories forever. I've gotten so much into it that practically all my friends are skateboarders. And you guys are showing me respect for what I do, which I've worked so hard to do. Like, this is a big reward. That means more to me than the money! Forever in my life I can tell all my kids I was more than just an average skateboarder. Not just another kid who could go out and do a kickturn. My kids will say I did something with my life. ☺



focus





(Left)
Frontside aerial tail-tap. Steve Anderson,
Hollywood, Fl.

(Opposite page)
High rise ollie air. Alan Gelfand, Hollywood,
Fl.





Dennis "Polar Bear" Agnew takes air off the hips during an inspired early routine at the Gyro - Dog Bowl Pro.







(Left)
Relative unknown innovator, Eric Carlston
pulls off a high-precision aerial axle stall at
Pomona.

(Opposite page)
Steve Cathey freestyles amid freeform
sculpture in San Diego. Steve's
hyper-arching nose wheelie seemingly
merges surf and skate roots in modern
fusion.







THE GYRO DOG BOWL PRO

by Craig Fineman

If you were to take infamous Dogtown's one and only skatepark, acquire major financial and production assistance from one of the sport's leading wheel manufacturers, drop in some 50-plus entrants and add a group of spectators in the neighborhood of 1,500, what would you have? Well, anything but a typical poolriding contest! As it was, it was called the First Annual Gyro Dog Bowl Pro contest, held over the weekend of April 28th and 29th at, of course, Marina del Rey Skatepark.

First off, I would like to supply some information concerning the origin of the park itself. Several years back, Dennis Ogden was driving down Pacific Coast Highway through Malibu when he picked up Paul Hackett hitchhiking. Their conversation eventually led to skateboarding, at which time Dennis told Paul of his intention to build a skatepark in Dogtown. Paul immediately suggested he contact Ray Allen concerning the actual concept and design of the park.

Well, to make a long story short, Dennis took Paul's advice and the rest is history. The park is strictly family-owned, and Dennis Ogden is the president of the corporation and the actual developer of the park. Ray Allen functions under the official title of chief designer and general manager. If you have not had the opportunity to visit the park yet, take my advice and do so. Essentially a family business, there is a uniquely personal atmosphere which should make your visit a pleasant one. And besides, you never know who you'll see there!

Not unexpectedly, the park had been jammed for days prior to the competition. Anticipation was running extremely high and everyone expected a record-setting turnout. Although not nearing the 60-some entrants Henry Hester has had for past events, the Dog Bowl managed a very respectable 40-plus men and nine women, the majority of which were seen frequenting the bowl during the preceding week. Needless to say, there were some mean sessions going down.

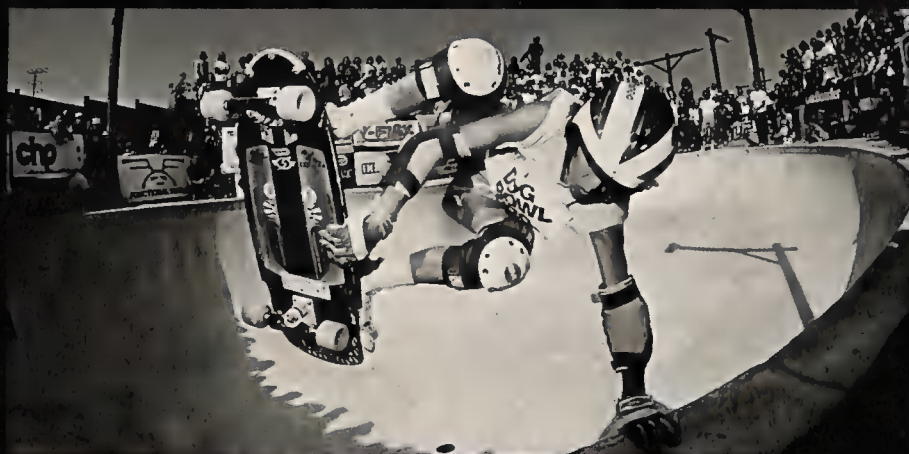
The skating on Friday night was hot and heavy, and to say that it developed into quite a snake session would be an incredible understatement. Notable faces in the mob included: Micke Alba, Hackett, Plummer, Olson, Martinez, Kubo, Hoffman, Rodriguez, La Mar,

Brad Bowman (11th) wasn't quite able to follow through on a strong start, which included radical air off the hips.

(Right)
Bert LaMar, in an almost flawless effort,
came close to duplicating his performance
at Osis, emerging a very close 2nd.

(Bottom right)
Vickie Vickers took 2nd in a hard-fought
contest with Lawrence and Devine.

(Below)
Aerial pioneer George Ortton, was hardly a
surprise winner in the air event.



CASSIMUS



TERREBONNE



TERREBONNE

Confident and consistent, Teri Lawrence's
1st in the women's division proved a
popular decision.



TERREBONNE



David Andrecht linked up enough hot moves in a final routine to upset LaMar . . . David's aerial axle stalls figured prominently.

GYRO DOG BOWL PRO RESULTS

Men's Freestyle Bowl

- | | |
|--------------------|----------|
| 1. David Andrecht | (\$1500) |
| 2. Bert La Mar | (750) |
| 3. David Hackett | (500) |
| 4. Eric Grisham | |
| 5. Ray Rodriguez | (400) |
| 6. Dennis Martinez | (300) |
| 7. Tony Alva | (200) |
| 8. Shreddi Repas | (100) |
| 9. Dennis Agnew | (75) |
| 10. Peter Gifford | (50) |
| 11. Brad Bowman | (25) |

Women's Freestyle Bowl

- | | |
|------------------|---------|
| 1. Teri Lawrence | (\$500) |
| 2. Vicki Vickers | (250) |
| 3. Brenda Devine | (150) |

Highest Aerial

- | | |
|-------------------|---------|
| 1. George Orton | (\$250) |
| 2. Chris Stroppe | (100) |
| 3. Kent Schiffman | (25) |
| 4. Wesley Bennett | (25) |

Longest Carve Goofy Foot

- | | |
|-----------------|---------|
| 1. Art Dickey | (\$250) |
| 2. Marty Grimes | (75) |
| 3. Eric Grisham | |
| 4. Cris Crouch | (25) |

Regular Foot

- | | |
|--------------------|---------|
| 1. Tony Alva | (\$250) |
| 2. Robbie O'Hare | (75) |
| 3. Robert Gonzales | (50) |

perhaps the strongest field of women entrants ever assembled for a professional bowlriding event. Heading the list with maneuvers and aggressiveness were Vicki Vickers, Teri Lawrence, Kim Cespedes and Brenda Devine. They received a well-deserved roar from the crowd, and never once left anyone disappointed. Once again, the action amply proved that women have found their place in professional skateboarding.

Due to poor logistics there would be no women's final, only this one round. In summary, Vicki Vickers' local knowledge almost put her ahead of the field, but the incredible power and consistency of Teri Lawrence proved to be too much. All the women involved skated commendably though the two pre-contest favorites *did* win out.

The field of 11 for the men's final, generally proved the cream of the crop, the pick of the litter in the pro school: Dennis Agnew, Tony Alva, David Andrecht, Brad Bowman, Peter Gifford, Eric Grisham, David Hackett, Bert La Mar, Dennis Martinez, Shreddi Repas, and Ray Rodriguez. If the resulting energy could have been harnessed, it could have kept L.A. lighted for a week or Las Vegas for 20 minutes! What more need I say! La Mar rode like a winner but didn't and Andrecht also rode like a winner and did.

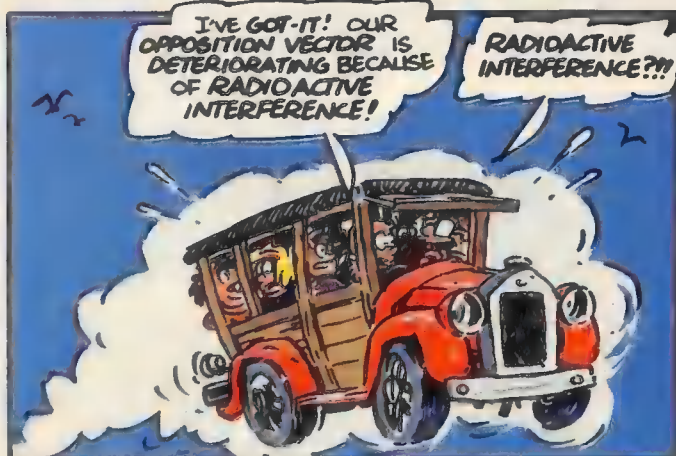
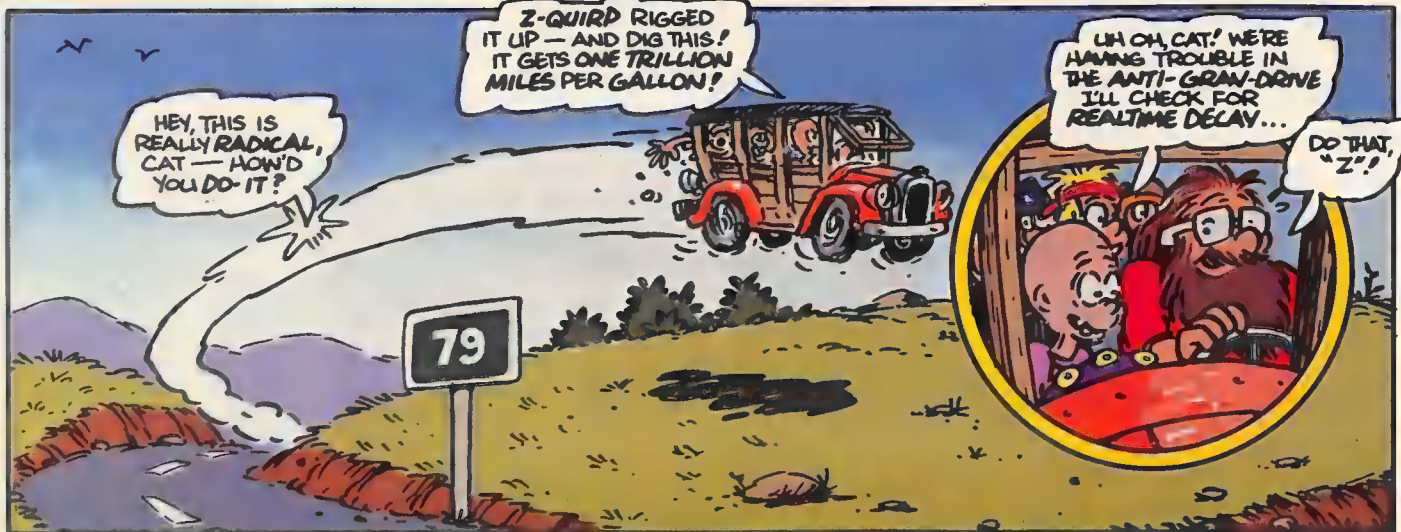
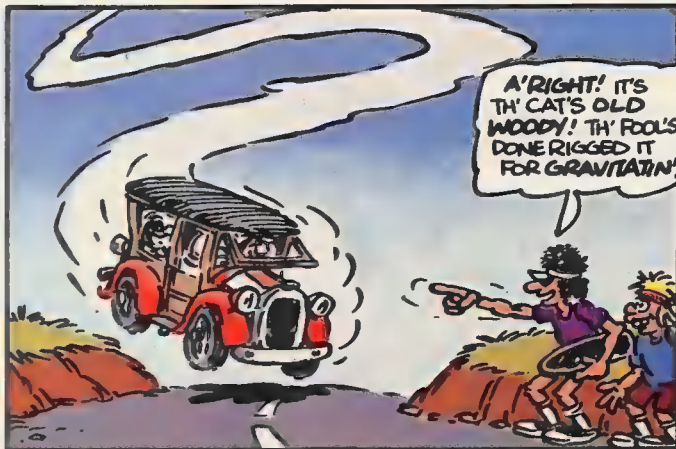
With the final behind us, the only event remaining was the always-exciting aerial event. This time it was back to the highest aerial (not the most aerials possible in a certain time allotment). This category was stoking from the very beginning. Once the height markers reached the 20" mark, it became pretty much a personal duel between Orton and Stroppe. Each of the boys were popping them their hardest, George going for the frontside and Chris, naturally, backside. Orton finally won the match when Stroppe missed two consecutive attempts at 30", with George eventually going on and clearing 30½".

The final award of a long and highly competitive weekend was paid to Marty Grimes, whose "Grimes slide" was named the most outrageous maneuver of the competition — which in the case of this particular pro bowl contest, was a pretty heavy compliment! 🌀

Mellow CatTM

BY TED RICHARDS

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HARRY LEONARDSON, AND TED RICHARDS



MOST OBSCURE *Signature* MODEL CONTEST

by Oaf Z. Vall

Yes, Skatefans, this is it or as close as you're gonna' get, anyhow. The finals from our most definitive contest, the "Most Obscure Signature Model" affair.

A FEW WORDS FROM THE MISMANAGEMENT REGARDING THE SPECIFIC INTENT AND NATURE OF THIS ENDEAVOR.

It all started innocently enough late one spring night over Lone Stars in the Killer Capo Bar and Grill. The rules were to be simple and to the point: i.e. photographic evidence only depicting the most obscure of models. Our customary prizes would be given. The staff figured that we could have a few laughs as well as illuminate some of the darker (most obscure) aspects of our history. Yes, that was our intent, to create a historical document worthy of the ages. Little did we realize the pandemonium we were creating. We never dreamed that the raw tonnage of correspondence would force one secretary to quit, resign another to her fate, and cause a third to quit being resigned to her fate. Latent feminism of the first order.

The point to all this being that we generated hundreds of obtuse offerings, each deserving of an award of some sort. In view of this, our big-hearted main man, D. Dash, and his small-budgeted editor, B.G., agreed to award several prizes to those noted by our unbiased panel of judges.

So, having been forewarned, read on and remember that while the first commercial skateboard Signature model was the 60's Makaha Phil Edwards' model, many of its successors and imitators have sloppy signatures.

SOME MORE OR LESS BASIC CATEGORIES

What could be more basic than losing attempts. We received a multitude of them and discerned a pattern inherent therein.

The most common type of misguided entries were Alva Skates in an abundance of styles and settings. Shown here are two wrong numbers. (A) Spring 1978, signed Alva Fanatic and (B) Skippy Boy Engblom, shown with his entry in the evidence room of the S.M.P.D. (Ed. note - Tony is hardly obscure.)

Other losers were launched in numbers for the Bruce Logan model, the Russ Howell Greteck wonder, the Lonnie Toft model, the Makaha 360, the "Go for It" Dirt Rider, the Bad M slalom, the Steve "Santa Cruz" Olson Punk Plyer, the Laura Thornhill model, the Makaha "Dogtown Roller," the J. Adams Z-Flex, the Niko-Weiss Olympic board, the N.P. Pro-Series, and at the bottom of our multiple entries basic-trend list, with three inputs, was the Mike McDonnell M-7 Star Plane. It is interesting to note that many of the losers in the highly-obvious choice category were clipped from ads and articles in several now-defunct "skating" mags. Come on boys, just because our "competitors" were so obscure, doesn't mean you're gonna win!

(Above right)
One of many original and "hardly obscure" Alva skates cited.

(Right)
Skipper and evidence.





Tom Feldman and non-winning entry.



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"THEY SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER BUT THEY TRIED ANYWAY" CATEGORY.

What can we say about some of these attempts? In fact some are downright unprintable. This was our most bizarre category, proving that the most obscure thing about this event was the wit of some of our readers. I mean, we even got a revealing, autographed foto of "Little Egypt," whoever she is.

Our first prize goes out to Kenny McMight who claims to be from Malibu but whose letter was postmarked in the San Fernando Valley. Kenny went all out with his winning entry, a signed (on the back) photo of Peggy Thurston, Miss Canoga Park, 1977. Ken, you really should have known better, but congratulations. Runners-up in the nonsense category were: Tom Feldman of Woodstock, N.Y. for his Les-Paul model Gibson Guitar; Sharon Baxter of Tyler, Texas, for her Arthur Ashe model tennis racket; Hal Jepsen of Topanga, Calif. for his 1979 extended-body Cadillac Fleetwood Limousine, formerly owned by that famous Sausalito resident, Madam Sally Stafford; Taylor Simmons of Washington, D.C., for his Capitol Hill model "Broom on Wheels;" and Sue Larchman of Bakersfield, Calif., for her Betty Crocker Signature Cookbook. Man, I just lost my appetite.

THE "MOST INVENTIVE" CATEGORY.

Ted "patent-pending" Armstrong of Oakland, Calif., walked away with this category with his namesake slopemobile model. Ted informs us that his model is "a gravity-propelled recreational vehicle with adjustable wheelbase. This adjustment controls weight distribution and velocity on inclines of various grades, such as stairs, dry land, pavement, etc. What can we say, Ted? Check out these photos.

"STAB IN THE BACK AND FRIENDLY RF" CATEGORY

Before we get into our more conventional offerings, let's first offer a few comments on some of our more pointed submissions. (Pointed right at someone's back.) Well, boys will be boys and the girls are even harder core. Now understand. Some of these people don't want credit for this and they'll probably deny it, so we'll let you be the judge. Is there no end to what old friends will do to one another?

Our first example of this sort is a spurious documentation of Bobby Piercy with seven of his personal models (all made by different manufacturers). The anonymous contributor offers this bit of wisdom, "The only thing Bobby has more of is girls." Now, dear reader, is this (choose one): (A) self-promotion, (B) the work of a disgruntled former sponsor or (C) the Jer paying back for services rendered. Number Two is evidence of a Tom Sims longskate model from Highlands, New Jersey. The board appears to be a rather rustic, clay-wheeled version of the more common Sims ultimate product. Our correspondent writes, "This board was made in the late sixties by one of the old Jersey Shore locals. I would be really interested to know if this is the same fantastic Mr. Sims who professes to be from Santa Barbara. Well, we don't know so we asked and the Godfather responded that he was going to send "a Beamer that's *really* obscure." Now, skate fans, is this T.G.F.'s way of implying that a certain other Santa Barbara manufacturer is responsible? We don't know for sure so maybe a third party should have entered a "Powell-Sims Quicksilver" and then we'd all know definitely.

And last but still a dirty-tricks leader is Mr. Lance Smith of Tracker's non-entry. It is well-known Mr. Smith has an enormous collection of skating memorabilia so when Lance talks obscenity, people listen.

Smith's non-entry was particularly



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ingenious in its non-participation. Herr Lance simply put the word out that he was going to enter a Tommy Ryan model, "Cooley Bunbuster." This relic, according to L.S., is the very same skate used by Ryan when he was profiled by *Life Magazine* in the early 60's. Smith is to be commended for his friendship for Tom, exhibited by not entering and for his cunning ability to get credit for possessing same without actually *proving* it. Lance, send us the skate and we'll send you the prize, bro.

BIGGEST CATEGORY

Sophie Barbier from Jamaica, N. Y. wins this division for her slightly purloined graphic of Chris Chaput atop a Thomson, the world's biggest skate.

OLD FAVORITES CATEGORY

The "Shark" Skateboard manufactured by Nash in Fort Worth, Texas was judged the most obscure of this grouping. Our first shark shot came from James Whitten in Huntington Beach, Calif., who consequently wins. Other old favorites submitted included: the Skee-Skate, the Red Roller, the Black Knight, the Makaha Commander, the Hobie Flex, the Val Surf Mark Richards model, the Bun Buster, Jack's Mickey Maga model, the Boden-Ledterman longboard, the G & S Willie Phillips' Fibreflex slalom, the Bahne St. Pierre model, the Roller Derby, the Black Panther, the Gregg Moll Da Cat, the Sidewalk Surfer, the Hang Ten, the Ten Toes model, the Toes Over model (Ed. note: a lot of people had their feet in their mouths in the 60's), the Two Guys Surfer Skater, the Twister, the Cyclone Surfer, the Mattel "Barbie and Ken" scale-model skate, Ed "Big Daddy" Roth's Surfink Skate by Revell, and a hundred or so equally thought-provoking others.

"THEY MAY BE OBSCURE BUT THEY WORK" CATEGORY

Closing out this smorgasbord of obscurity are some of the models we judged to be particularly worthy of merit and exposure, such as the graphically classic Herb Spitzer model by Riding High skates. Thanks to Don Sheridan for sending it in.

For basic da kine roots, who can beat the F-53, a kiln-dried Hau Bush flyer built by Maui Surfboards. Thanks to Wayne Somo of Hawaii for clueing us in.

Another interesting design is the Bill Matthews Inland Surfboard which features the Arizona pipe innovator's unique plan shape. Thanks to the boys in Stockton for entering.

Craig Snyder of Hollywood, Florida sent in the Bob Little model from (who else?) Little Skates. Little is well-known in Florida Freestyle circles and Snyder adds "for verification ask Alan Gelfand."

For volume, the Rail Rider team in Flushing, N. Y., deserves something for their endless material covering their entire lives, company history and ample arsenal of boards. Included in their dispatch were the Henry Tevarog model, the Chris Carter model, the Ultralite model and the Falcon.

Joel "Rad Rat" Washington of Fun City gets our congrats for his fully cherried-out quiver of graphic delights. The man is out to enter our art contest next.

And in summation, we can't forget Ocs Dimit who sent us a shot of the Hawk 28 Slalom Board signed by Mike Bales. Dimit adds the board was a good shape but sold poorly. Only two were bought, in fact — well, better luck next time. ☺



Rail Rider Quivers.

Florida's popular Bob Little model.






Bill Matthews model.



Joel Washington and Fun City cruisers.





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by Curtis Hesselgrave

Bad H called them out! Thirty-nine young dudes tried and true, heeded the call and put it all on the line. The scene of this showdown was the "baddest" park pool in California, within the grounds of Winchester Skatepark, Winchester, Calif. The big guns were all there, out to make good.

The gnarly 12 footer started taking its toll even before the event began. Kimble was down for the count with three head bongos and a ripping Alba out with a knee injury. Despite a few of the best gone, things were shaping up to an encounter of the roughest kind.

WINCHESTER SHOOT-OUT

TA and Hackett looked mean. Strople was loaded for bear with bionic air. Wally was shooting straight and clean. Gifford was well-prepared. Kevin Reed had moves nobody had ever seen before. Young Micke seemed a heavy threat. And Stacy looked smooth, stylish and quick.

Kevin Reed of Santa Cruz, suffered a bad fall in the semifinals, yet came away from Winchester one of the most respected skaters in the competition for innovative moves and high-energy routines.



Del Mar local Chris Strole, "seemed to spend as much time in the air as in the pool." Chris stretched the limits of the hand

plant, and many other maneuvers, on his way to second place.



CASSINUS

San Leandro's Tim Marting, winner of the 1978 Winchester Pro, did not fair so well at this year's contest, somehow missing the

early cut. Tim, however, showed his usual fluidity on this hand plant.



TERREBONNE

Stacy "Coach" Peralta earned praise, not to mention 5th place, for another radical yet smooth performance. Stacy's aerial

bert-reverts (pictured) startled and stoked judges and spectators alike.



CASSIMUS

The Preliminaries

With the cut at 16 you had to make it good, or you didn't make it at all. The judges were scoring heavily on degree of difficulty and variety. The riders who used the whole bowl racked up the points. The basic back-and-forth line doesn't cut it any more in pro skating; 3-point and clover-leaf lines are what's happening. That was definitely the case the morning of April 21, 1979, as the Winchester prelims commenced.

Each rider had two runs; the best was counted and the worst was thrown out. Three points were deducted for each fall.

The first heat saw two riders advance, Kevin Reed and Frank Blood. Kevin, a rider who has been around for a while, showed at least seven new moves that hadn't been seen before and scored an 81.0 to qualify. Frank, who has also been around a long time (four years in competition) skated aggressively and qualified with an 80.0.

Heat two qualified Rick Blackhart with a 79.8. Stacy Peralta, another long-time talent, also qualified in heat two. Stacy's fluid routines always score high, this time earning him 84.2, the second highest mark of the qualifying round.

Heat three also advanced two riders and, again, they were two faces we've seen around for a long while — Doug "Pineapple" Saladino from San Diego and David Hackett from Dogtown. Pine's routine, including his bionic R & R slide, scored him an 80.6. David

received an 80.6 also in an aggressive routine highlighted by micro edgers.

Heat four advanced three skaters: Steve Olson, Robert Schaeffli and Tom Inouye. Olson skated well, but not up to his full limits, scoring 80.4 for his efforts. Robert Schaeffli, who is the designer of the Winchester Pool, skated his creation ably, pulling off 79.4. Tom Inouye made masterful use of the pool with clover-leaf upside-down carves, receiving excellent marks. He posted an 81.6, the fifth highest score in the qualifying round.

Fifth round qualifiers were Ray "Bones" Rodriguez and Peter Gifford. Ray Bones skated well and pulled a score of 79.4, squeezing him into the next round. Gifford put in a strong effort, showing a wide variety of maneuvers and posting an 83.8, third highest score in the qualifying round.

Round six advanced Micke Alba, Kirk Talbott and Randy Buck. Micke is coming in strong this year, and, with Steve out due to an injury, he carried on the Alba tradition. Micke scored an 82.2, the fourth highest qualifying score. Kirk Talbott skated well and made the cut with an 80.2. Randy Buck, an excellent Northern California rider, put in a fine routine and pegged an 80.4 to stay in the running.

The seventh round produced the highest qualifying score, Strople's 84.8. The bionic man's run was filled with 2-3' air of all types — frontside,

backside, alley oop and hand plant. Also making the cut in round seven were Doug de Montmorency with an 80.6 and Scott Parsons with an 80.8.

The eighth heat had only three riders and George "Go-for-it" Orton was the only one to make the cut. George scored a 79.4 and just made the mark.

With the qualifying round over, the remainder of the day was consumed by the aerial event. This year's air competition replaces 1978's one-wheeler event, with the rules essentially the same. The rider with the highest number of aerials in the allotted time period (30-second prelims and 45-second finals) wins. At the end of the first run-through, three riders were tied for first place — Dennis Martinez, George Orton and Frank Blood. None of them had missed a try. In the final round, all three again tied, showing amazing consistency. After a brief judges' conference the time was lengthened to one minute for a tie breaker, but it didn't work! These three gentlemen were so consistent that even after one minute none of them missed a single air and so they decided to leave it that way, a three-way tie between Orton, Blood and Martinez.

The Finals

On Sunday, April 22, the sky looked threatening and Henry was worried. Thoughts of last year, when the first two

No longer an underdog, Upland's 13-year-old wonder-kid, Micke Alba, appears firmly planted near the top of the

pro-bowlriding ranks. Micke took a well-deserved fourth.



TERREBONNE



Marina local Dave Hackett emerged a very close 3rd, employing quick surges and critical passes.



TERREBONNE



San Diego's Doug "Pineapple" Saladino made the early cut, in part due to his clean rock 'n roll slides.



CASSIMUS

events of the series were rained out, must have come to mind. But it didn't rain — oh, it sprinkled a bit during practice and a half hour after the finals were over it came down hard. But during the event, the powers that be smiled down and there was none of that wet stuff!

Sunday's opener was the quarter finals; eighteen skaters would be reduced to a select eight. Again the round allowed two runs for each rider, the high score taken and the low thrown out.

None of the riders in the first heat made the cut, Ray Bones put in a solid run and scored an 80.0, but it wasn't quite good enough. Randy Buck took a bad fall but got up after a moment, waved to the crowd (who gave him a big cheer) and walked up out of the bowl.

Heat two advanced Parsons, Blood and Reed. Scott put in a good routine with no falls and scored an 81.6 to advance. Frank rode two classic, high-energy runs, highlighted by tail-block grinders. Never faltering, he scored a solid 83.0, putting him fourth this round. Kevin Reed put in another unusual, though blazing, performance. His maneuvers are a fantastic blend of pinpoint balance and control, mixed with speed and a variety of line. That was reflected in his score, an 86.0, despite one fall. (Again, falls require a mandatory three-point subtraction from the score.) Kevin's run placed him

firmly in the lead of the quarter final round.

Only David Hackett advanced out of heat three. David's routine was the clean, Dogtown approach to pool riding — lots of energy and edge, with air here and there. David scored an 82.0 to place him sixth for this round.

All four riders in the last heat advanced. Peter Gifford took 84.6; Micke Alba, 84.4; Chris Strople, 82.9; and Stacy Peralta 81.6. That put Peter second in the round; Micke, third; Strople, fifth, and Stacy tied for seventh with Parsons.

In the semifinal round each skater rode three times, with the best two scores averaged together to produce the rider's score. This meant that the skating had to get both more consistent and more radical in order to stay in the running. Strople and Hackett advanced from the first heat with 85.2 and 83.13, respectively. Strople's airbornes were getting higher and there were more of them. Alba and Gifford advanced in the second heat, Micke with 83.2 and Peter with 85.5. Kevin Reed was in the second heat and took a bad fall while really going all out. He was down for a few seconds but got up by himself and was alright.

By the time the finals came, rain again seemed an immediate possibility. In the foothills not more than a mile away you could see heavy squall action, but directly over the pool there was a high-pressure cell and the sun

was shining amid blue sky. The final round consisted of three runs by each of the skaters, all three runs counting. More so than in the earlier rounds, there was no room for error. Falls would weigh heavily; consistency and advanced technique were prerequisites to winning.

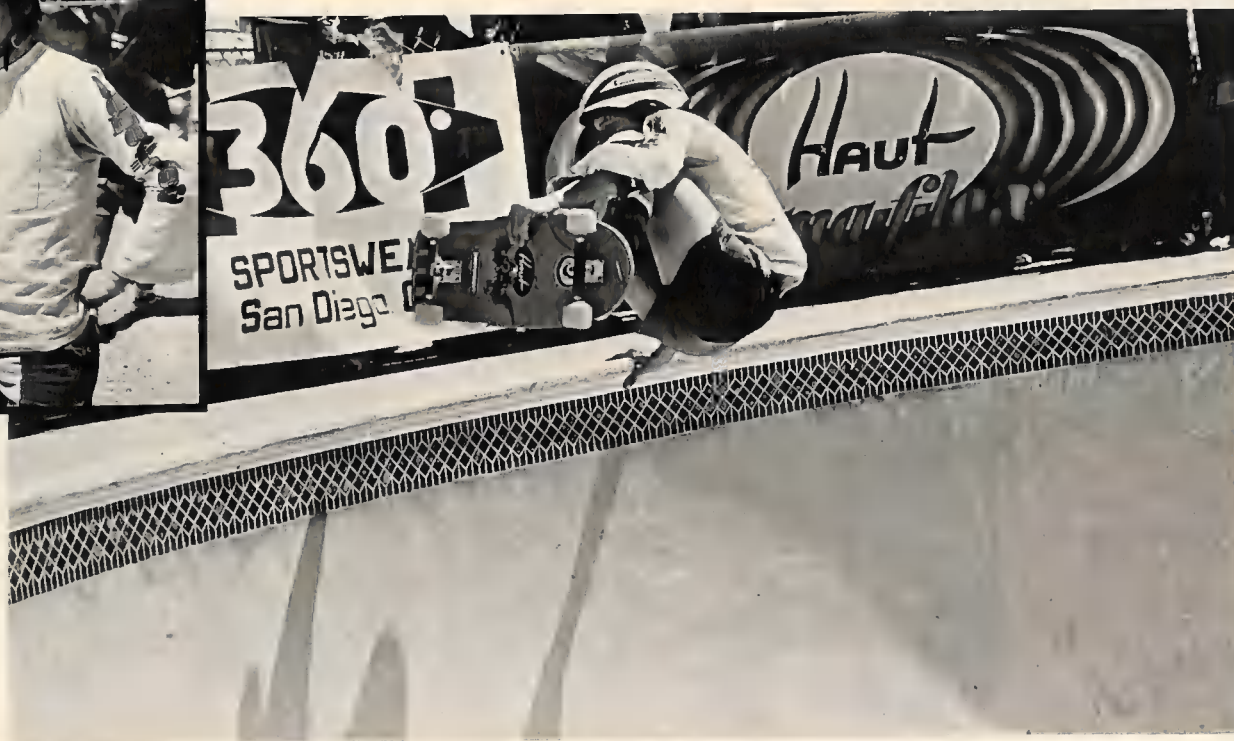
Micke Alba led off with an excellent run and no falls. He looked really strong, an apparent threat. Next was Hackett with a solid run. Strople followed, flowing a bionic run with at least one judge giving him a 90. Last up was Gifford, putting in a good run through marred by a fall. Then it was back to Micke. Micke's ride was strong, but not quite as strong as the first one, and three quarters of the way through, he took a fall, as well. Hackett's next run was his best of the day, although possibly lacking in variety. Strople's next run was costly due to two falls. He'd have to skate his brains out and not fall in the next run to finish at the top. Gifford's second run, on the other hand, was excellent. He rode clean and performed a wide variety of high-point tricks, using the whole pool. He was definitely in contention.

Micke's third run in the finals suffered again due to a fall, making a first or second place impossible. Micke just couldn't seem to really get it going again after his wipeout last run. Hackett put in a clean, energy-filled run, though again lacking in variety. David's scores were good, though not good enough to



Peter "Kiwi" Gifford came on hot and heavy in Winchester's keyhole, one of his favorite pools, to take top honors in this first Hester

of 1979. Kiwi's forte were his versatile routines, which encompassed aerial Kiwi slides.



CASSIMUS

win. Next up — Strople put it all together and blazed his final run. He seemed to spend as much time in the air as in the pool. With no falls he got great scores. Now it was all up to Gifford. It was a make or break situation and Peter met the challenge. Putting in an exceptional run, filled with a wide range of tricks and lines, Peter pulled it and took the highest score of the day. (Four of Peter's five scores were in the 90's and the fifth was an 89.) When the dust had cleared and the runs were added up, Gifford came out on top with an 86.2 average. Behind him in second was Strople with an average 84.333. Third was Hackett at 84.066, and fourth, Alba with 82.533.

Doubles Competition

In addition to the singles and air events at this Hester, there was also a doubles competition run just like last year. The only difference in this year's doubles was that Henry was giving Series points to the doubles teams and there will be an overall winning team for the season. Like last year, there was a doubles heat on Saturday and one on Sunday. The scores from the two days were averaged, producing the Winchester doubles winners.

Day one saw Wally Inouye and Peter Gifford take the lead at 83.8 with a quality routine. Bear in mind that a great doubles routine involves excellent skating on both riders' parts

plus a near-disaster quality to their interaction. Wally and Peter's routine totally met these requirements with great tricks and incredible near-misses along the bottom. Right behind them was Olson and Hackett with a good routine and a score of 81.2. Third was the team of Blood and Orton. They've been riding doubles a long time together and it shows in their well-choreographed interchange. Fourth was Tony Jetton and Greg Ayres at 77.6; fifth, Ray Rodriguez and Jay Smith at 75.6; seventh, Stacy Peralta and Kirk Talbott 72.2; eighth, Duane Peters and Tony Alba 69.6; ninth, Doug de Montmorency and Darrell Miller 60.4; tenth, Dennis Martinez and David Andrecht 50.0; and in last place, the comedy team of Peralta and Saunders with a 40.4 mostly for not cracking up — vocally that is!

Day two of the doubles as usual saw less teams participating. Blood and Orton dominated with a score of 90.6. These guys have doubles down to a science and it really showed. Synchronized air, over-under air, and double cessers, all performed with complete coordination — their run moved them from third place Saturday to first place overall today, with a combined score of 171.2. Also putting on a good show were Olson and Hackett, scoring a 86.8 Sunday and clinching second overall with a combined score of 168.0. Third overall was the team of Inouye and Gifford with

a combined score of 163.0, with today's run missing a lot of the flash of yesterday's. Fourth were Jetton and Ayres with 158.0; fifth, Ray Rodriguez and Jay Smith with 155.6; and sixth, were Parsons and Halverson with 133.2. The rest of the teams didn't compete the second day.

With this, the shoot-out was over. The victors took the spoils and rode off into the sunset, and many of the rest promised to get even at the next Hester, at this writing scheduled for the new park at Whittier in Southern California. 🌀

Results

Hester Series Points

Bowl Freestyle	Doubles
1. Peter Gifford	George Orton
2. Chris Strople	Frank Blood
3. David Hackett	
4. Micke Alba	Air
5. Stacy Peralta	(3-way Tie)
6. Frank Blood	Frank Blood
7. Scott Parsons	George Orton
8. Kevin Reed	Dennis Martinez

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Shogo Kubo, Hollywood Ramp.



Kevin Reed

20 years old, rides for Haut Skateboards



On a recent trip to Florida, Kevin ripped the Turningpoint Capsule with avant-garde surf lines.

With fifteen years of hard-core surfing experience under his belt, Kevin Reed is easily a leading exponent of the surf/skate phenomenon. His early surfing was mostly recreational; it took the short-board revolution [circa 1969] to really get Kevin inspired. But since that period it's been nothing but non-stop progression in the water. That fact is reflected in Kevin's land-based ripping.

Kevin has been into skating for about eight years now, and he often translates his surfing into new skate tricks and techniques. He says that in order to develop a surf-oriented style, one must simply apply the same basic principles: weighting and unweighting, pressure and release, and fluent connecting of lines. When all things combine in harmony, you have truly skillful riding, whether it be in the water or on cement.

Kevin claims that his surfing is self-inspired for the most part, but does give credit to Joey Thomas for his contribution. His influence over Kevin's development has been in the form of surfboards, Joey having built all of Kevin's boards for the past eight years. Kevin's comment: "J.T.'s shapes are the ultimate for me; in my opinion his boards are absolutely the best, as far as solid progressive surfing goes." Most of his friends have expressed their desire to see pro skater Kevin enter the professional surf scene as well, but he is keenly aware of the meager rewards. As in pro skating, the benefits are elusive and generally not monetary.

Kevin's first professional skateboard contest was during the 1978 Hester Series, at Newark Skatepark near San Jose. During the course of events, he managed to land three 360 aeriels about half-way down the face wall. He eventually rolled out of one with enough speed to reach the top of the opposite wall. Kevin was well-rewarded for this

maneuver, as it was named "the best trick of the contest." Moreover, during the most recent Hester, held at Winchester, Kevin once again met with the judges' approval by being awarded the highest single score ever tabulated in the Hester Series.

Despite his competitive successes, Kevin remains objective about that very judging system: "I feel like the system needs desperately to be updated. They [the judges] are about three to four contests behind in the critiquing of new tricks and variations of old ones."

Kevin's favorite skaters include Pete Gifford, Eric Halverson, Doug de Montmorency, Scotty Parson and Stacy Peralta for their ability and perseverance in trying new and different moves.

Kevin's new model with Haut Skateboards of Santa Cruz is available in lengths of 30" and 32" and is 10½" wide. The board itself is Hard Rock Maple which is "electronically glued-up" into 5-ply blanks. The finished product has 15° of tail kick and comes with a hot airbrush on the bottom.

Having been to the Cherry Hill park twice with Kevin, I have become quite an admirer of his skating. He was doing tricks at Cherry Hill in both the egg bowl and the small kidney that people back there hadn't even thought of yet. On another trip, to Astro Speedway Skatepark in Grand Rapids, Michigan, Kevin once again proved a standout and blew more than a few minds. He has since become one of my favorite photographic subjects.

In essence, Kevin ranks as one of the most unique and stylish skaters in the sport today. If almost mechanical consistency is given more importance in pro bowlriding, that is of little concern to him. That attitude together with his skating is what sets Kevin Reed apart. —Craig Fineman

FINEMAN



Kevin grabs the inside rail for a somewhat bizarre tail-stall at Winchester.

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Off The Wall

Here we are once again, nodding out at deadline time, while in the streets late summer desperation reigns supreme. Maybe they call this autumn, who knows? Still, the big questions remain unanswered. Will King James and Giggles return intact from the Continent? Will Bongo, in his 22nd annual autumnal equinox fling, ever regain his boyhood charm? Will Goodrich defect to *National Geographic* . . . or is that the *National Enquirer*? But now down to biz.

FILM FLAM DEPT.

Steve Sabol of NFL Films, garnered two Emmy Awards for the cinema short, "Skateboard Fever," which was aired on NBC. (And we don't mean the National Biscuit Corporation.) The winner, which features skaters Tony Jetton, Gregg Ayers, Denis Shufeldt and Chris Chaput, is available for group showings by writing NFL films, 230 N. 13th St., Philadelphia, PA., 19107.

The multiple award-winning (Gold Camera, Cine Golden Eagle, Bronze at N. Y. Film Festival, etc.) film "Surefootin'" is also available on a free loan basis to organizations, etc. The piece (which was sponsored by the Dairy Queen system) deals with skate safety. Interested parties may contact: Modern Talking Picture Service, 2020 Prudential Plaza, Chicago, Illinois, 60601.

The HJF cine crew recently ground out their last sound-sync dialogue and an undisclosed OTW informer reports that old Hal is close to releasing his long, long, long awaited "Skateboard Madness." Lobster Red is Hal's poolroom scene featuring Mellow Cat. It's supposed to be a classic.

Sighted at the closing of Bill

Graham's Winterland, was Lucas Bolles. Lucas has suspended viewing of his underground hard-edged skate film temporarily to pull down a reportedly hefty salary from Universal on the in-production Blues Brothers film. After visiting his old haunts on Chicago's South Side scouting locations for Dan Aykroyd and John Belushi, Lucas was so overcome with nostalgia that he's threatening to go into the music business. Bolles' first cut will allegedly feature old Stax-Volt stalwarts, Sam and Dave, backed by Steve Cropper, Donald Duck Dunn, Tom Scott, Steve Jordan and Matt Guitar Murphy in a cover version of the B-Bros onetime number one hit, "Soul Man Watch Out for the Block Whale."

LOW AND SLOW DEPT.

Ranfla man . . . Doug Pineapple Saladino gets down in a new lowered Chevy Monte Carlo. The man's so into it, he contacted the Blanco Vato, Bones "Stacy" Peralta, to find out where to get the best deal on hydraulics and Low Rider mags. Pineapple's team rider Dennis Martinez has no comment. But boys, kick back and dig on it. Can this cholo chic be far from head-man Larry Gordon's personal short?

WHERE ARE THEY NOW DEPT.?

Bob Ballou is selling cars to the highest bidder.

George Orton is framing in the Inland Empire. Doug Schneider is cutting his engineering class at USC and is playing darts at the BAZ-10. Chris Yandall's wheels are showing up on countless pairs of recreational shoe skates. Mac says they really work out!



CALLING WICHITA FALLS DEPT.

Ever since Alfredo went on the rampage no one can seem to find Wichita Falls. However, OTW has in its possession a top-secret photo of Alfredo moving in for the kill. Note the snappy di-elliptical photo composition on this page. Its creators are holding Alfredo for ransom. Any takers? All you have to do now is find W-Falls!

BUSTS OF THE MONTH DEPT.

Yes, it's true the Godfather has dry

docked his fleet of Bavarian racing machines and is tooling through the streets of Santa Barbara on a moped. The sleek bike is a Ted Williams approved Sears 2HP type and represents Mr. Tom Sims' heartfelt commitment to the ecology of his planet. Tom also has eight surf-boards which informants say run on only the purest juice. Do Mutt and Jeff of D.T.S. fame really spend all of their vacations in Las Vegas and Palm Springs? Watch out for that sand, boys, it will foul up your bearings.

LIVING LEGENDS DEPT.

The full-time skater sometimes is forced into diverting his attention, however momentarily, towards such non-skating activities as work. The reason for all this being that it occasionally takes long dollars for those ultimate short sessions. Proof of this phenomena is the emergence of one of the San Diego backcountry's most esoteric skating practitioners as a well-paid painting contractor. In between his airborne scouting sessions and eso-bowl workouts, Gunnar Haugo now applies paint at 1500 pounds per square inch. These days, to keep honest after his painting sojourns, G-man tests his one pound Mike Gordon Gliders and gravitates towards the new Rancho retreat in Mexico. As Strole says, "It's nice work if you can get it."

HAVE WE GOT A NAME FOR YOU DEPT.

Still no winners in the "Guess Glenn E's Middle Name" contest. This month's best guess comes in from Jim Goodrich and it's "Egolossus." Friedman assures us that that's "not even close." Glenn E. meanwhile has got his license and has taken to trolling the Garden State Parkway with a vengeance. How many dads would leave you with their new '79 El Dorado for a month? Friedman says the stories about his totaling the car are "completely unfounded," and promises that as soon as the Cadillac is out of the body shop he'll prove it.

OUT OF THE CLOSET AND ONTO THE TRACK DEPT.

Everyone knows that Danny Ongais who finished fourth in the Indy 500 is a personal friend of Wayne Miao who is a personal friend of Nathan Pratt who is a personal friend of Dave Dash. But what many don't know is that Chairman Dash is going public with his speed craving. Yes, after all those years of trying to maintain in his Turbo, Dave has finally yielded to the constant prodding of his friends and is entering a couple of races. Now what's really interesting about all this is that D.D. may compete against Santa Cruz ace John Hutson, who currently is making a strong bid on the road-racing circuit. But if you really want to get down to it, check this rumor

out for fiendishness. Will Dash and filmmaker Greg Le Mons sponsor, Hutson on the European circuit next year?



Kent Senatore, Steve Olson and Jerry Valdez look cool at Solid Surf — but are they productively aware?

RIVALRIES DEPT.

First there was DT versus "Down South," then it was No. Cal vs. So. Cal, then it was the Badlands against the world . . . now can history be repeating itself? Will the Floridians be declaring war on California? OTW can only ask this question in light of certain developments that occurred on, near and above the Turning Point Ramp and the Solid Surf Skatepark. Were Fineman, Bowman, Olson and Andrecht a crew of California commandos? Were Gelfand and Scroggs merely defending their home turf? Or did all of the above willfully conspire in a unified action to climb to the top of the water slide and bury the pro shop in an avalanche of stickers?

HOT TIPS DEPT.

Will the Skatetopia newsletter become the latest "in" thing since the UFO Flyer?

That *other* highly futuristic lady Steve Olson's been seen with is *not* his mother.

It's been 26 weeks at last count since Layne Oaks gave up the smoking of cigarettes. Layne's comment: "Quitting is not only good for your health, it's good for your pocket book."

Good "Bad H" Henry Hester's been up L.A.-way scouting parks for a possible pro bowl site. H says he looked at 15 which didn't measure up to his various exacting standards but still has a couple of possibilities lined up. Hester's also working around his \$2000 hospital session for ankle rebuilding.

While there was some truth in the categorical sequence of events leading to Mr. L. Toft's incredible Utah performances last winter, Toft's next snow outing will be even heavier. Says Skiboard maestro L.T., "It's all part of the program, just a continuation of mediums."

Rumor has it that Taxi's house in Fullerton hosted the first annual T-Q Shoot-Out. In the aftermath, Strople was seen carving bionic lines down the sidewalk on one hand while Tom Inouye got air in a completely water-filled pool. Taxi gave a rendition of "Moanin' in the Moonlight" that had the audience standing in the aisles. Taxi's roommate, Jimmy Discount, is said to have masterminded the whole affair, stating afterward that it was a "smashing success."

Curtis Hesselgrave, who is now working as a skatepark consultant and as a contest and demo organizer, is known to be a close friend and confidant of all of the above persons. The question is, did Curtis actually organize this one? No one's talking and we don't blame them. P.S. Henry Hester, who had nothing to do with the above (he claims), is organizing a new pro series and is confident concerning procurement of a new sponsor.

M.H. and the Boyz from Lincolnton, N.C., claim to have possession of Dandy Don Hoffman's missing "BADLAND" plate. Good luck Don, hope you enjoy North Carolina.

ODDS DEPT.

Onetime Hollywood High School Q.B. rollout star George Powell kept alive his string on 43 straight sports even predictions by correctly guessing the winners, point spreads, elapsed times, games played, etc., of a couple more championships. (Powell's recent correct call-outs include the World Series, the Super Bowl, the Stanley Cup and the NBA finals.) George's technique is more incredible than his almost unbelievable success. Powell, who pays no attention whatsoever to the sports during the normal seasons, simply looks at the sports page the day before whatever big event and picks the winner based on statistics. As usual, his friends and factory workers tried to pry the answer out of tight-lipped Powell prior to the game, but were foiled by the mastermind's ultra-high-tech security. (George doesn't believe in betting a sure thing; he insists he does this only as "a form of mental gymnastics.") In order to keep this year's hot picks out of the hands of any nefarious individuals, Powell locks the info in an aerospace aluminum capsule and heat-fuses it to the top of the company flag pole. The container is only opened after the event, thus the purpose being only to

verify the accuracy of the guess. George — who reportedly picked one through 10 on the last two SKATEBOARDER Readers' Polls — so far has refused OTW's offer to publicly disclose next year's winners in advance.

QUOTES OF THE MONTH

"I've got to enter these contests just to prove how bad they are." (Maddog)

"Send Kimbel over and I'll show him who's a real punk." (Steve Olson)

FOOLISH DEPT.

FF apologies go to Andrew J. Ross of NY, NY, who wonders why he's never won our contest. Well, Andrew, keep sending 'em in, you've been real close a couple of times. As for your inquiry about sending in FF answers on letters: yes, letters *do* take longer since our secretaries have to *open* them. Better luck next time.



Funny Foto.

WINNER OF OUR JUNE FOOLFEST

Winner of our June Foolfest is David Warfield of Pueblo, Colorado for first correctly identifying Tim Scroggs' twisted visage. Runners-up congrats — but no prizes — go to Craig Snyder of Lutz, FL, and Hector Valcarcel of Haverhill, MA.

As for July, still no correct inputs. Everyone keeps guessing it's Scroggs, but that was last month. So here's a giveaway hint: he's a member of the SKATEBOARDER staff and he wears a mask so the girls won't giggle. First to I.D. etc. wins, so head on down to the Postal Express. And for this month's outing, consider this heavily censored rising star. Known for his moves so far and wide, how long can he remain disguised by our shameless promotional decals? Get on it. First to correctly ID (on picture postcards, please) wins our SKATEBOARDER gift pack assortment as well as a personally signed letter congratulating him or her from King James. Do it now.

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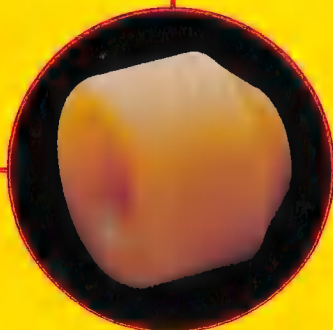
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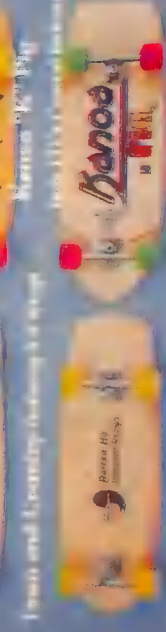


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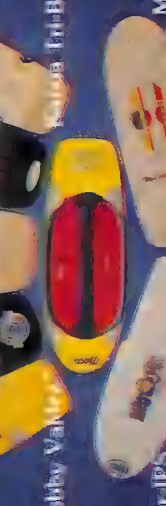


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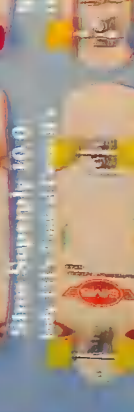


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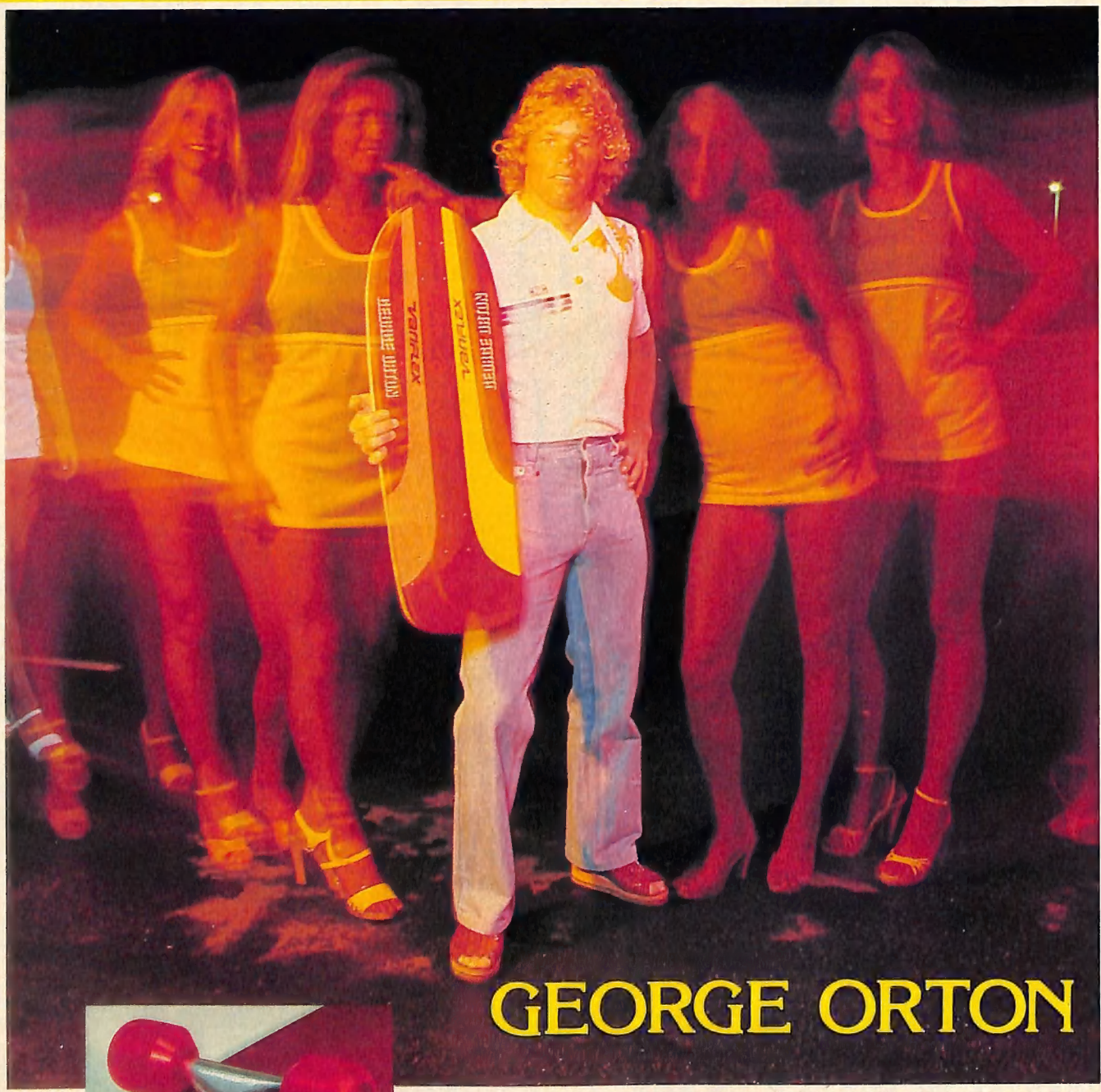


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